

*Welcome to the April Edition of  
“ On the Grapevine”,  
The Myrtleford Lodge Residents and  
Representatives Monthly Newsletter.*



*Easter is the symbol of hope and  
renewal of Life*

**This month we are sharing information regarding the new scheme introduced by the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission**

**Serious Incident Response Scheme – SIRS**

The Serious Incident Response Scheme (SIRS) is a new initiative to help prevent and reduce incidents of abuse and neglect in residential aged care services.

SIRS sets new arrangements for approved providers of residential aged care to manage and take reasonable action to prevent incidents with a focus on the safety, health, well-being and quality of life of aged care consumers.

Approved providers will be required to have in place an effective incident management system and to use this to continuously improve the management and prevention of incidents.

Under SIRS, approved providers will be required to report a broader range of incidents to the Commission than previous arrangements.

Incidents must be reported within set timeframes depending on the level of impact to the care recipient.

*The SIRS aims to:*

- *strengthen aged care systems to reduce the risk of abuse and neglect*
- *build providers' skills so they can better respond to serious incidents*

- *enable providers to review incident information to drive improvements in quality and safety*
  - *reduce the likelihood of preventable incidents from reoccurring*
  - *ensure people receiving aged care have the support they need.*
- The SIRS has 2 key components:*

- *Incident management obligations*
- *Compulsory reporting obligations.*

### **Incident management obligations**



The SIRS requires every residential aged care service to have in place an effective incident management system – a set of protocols, processes, and standard operating procedures that staff are trained to use. This

means adopting a systematic approach to minimise the risk of and respond to, incidents that occur in a residential care setting. An incident management system is vital in supporting residential age care services to effectively manage risks to their consumers, visitors and staff.

### **Compulsory reporting obligations**

In addition to managing all incidents, approved providers will be required to report serious incidents involving aged care consumers

To the Commission, and the police where the incident is of a criminal nature.

This reporting includes incidents that occur, or are alleged or suspected to have occurred, and will include incidents involving a care recipient with cognitive or mental impairment (such as dementia).

Reportable incidents include those listed below.

- Unreasonable use of force
- Unlawful sexual contact or inappropriate sexual conduct
- Psychological or emotional abuse
- Unexpected death
- Stealing or financial coercion by a staff member
- Neglect
- Inappropriate physical or chemical restraint
- Unexplained absence from care

### **When will the SIRS commence?**

From 1 April 2021, providers of residential aged care must have in place an effective incident management system and will be required to report all 'Priority 1' incidents to the Commission within 24 hours of becoming aware of the incident.

From 1 October 2021, residential aged care providers will also be required to report all 'Priority 2' incidents to the Commission within

30 days of becoming aware of the incident.

When an incident occurs at Bentley Wood the following analysis is undertaken:

- What, how and why did the incident occur?
- What can be done to reduce the risk of reoccurrence?
- Strategies to prevent further incidents explored and implemented.
- Open disclosure with resident and representative. Open disclosure is the open discussion that an aged care provider has with consumers when something goes wrong that has harmed or had the potential to cause harm to a consumer.



What could be learnt from this?

This evidence will be required for the new SIRS program and our systems are in place to report to SIRS program.

A Fact sheet is located at front reception for consumers and representatives titled 'What is the SIRS?' or you can download from [www.agedcarequality.gov.au](http://www.agedcarequality.gov.au)

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact staff at Bentley Wood.

<https://www.agedcarequality.gov.au/sirs>

Marita Seamer

### Activities at Myrtleford Lodge

Many of our keen gardeners enjoyed a lovely morning drive on the bus to Whorouly on what was a perfect Autumn day where they enjoyed strolling through the lovely garden of Rhonda Pethybridge.

Residents were greeted by members of the local gardening group, friends of Jill Weight who invited the ladies to spend the morning with them where they also enjoyed a delicious morning tea.



Activities at Myrtleford Lodge

Kath Evans enjoyed wandering through the garden which provided some shady spots to sit and relax



### Activities at Myrtleford Lodge

Thankyou to Wendy Cant who has been working very hard in the BBQ Courtyard garden, the garden has transformed into a beautiful area to enjoy morning and afternoon teas as well as providing a lovely quiet area to sit and relax with friends or to

read the daily paper in the sunshine.



Pictured is John Carter from Maintenance who completed the garden with some feature stones.





## Activities at Myrtleford Lodge



Whilst the weather continues to be beautiful and sunny, daily walks are enjoyed. Pictured is Silvia Cabai who enjoyed the early autumn warmth with a walk around the gardens.

Myrtleford Lodge Residents were able to receive their first Covid Pfizer Vaccine Injection on 29th March. The team will return on Monday 19th April to complete the second round of Vaccines.



## Special events Calendar

2nd ~ 5th April ~ Easter Celebrations

Easter is a Christian holiday that celebrates the belief of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

**Easter** is a Christian holiday that celebrates the belief in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Although a holiday of high religious **significance** in the Christian faith, many traditions associated with **Easter** date back to pre-Christian, pagan times.

2nd April Friday ~ Good Friday

4th April ~ Easter Sunday

6th April ~ Market Day

13th April ~ Residents Meeting

14th April ~ Birthday Breakfast

16th April ~ Friends of the Library

19th April ~ 2nd Covid Injection

22nd April ~ Pampering Afternoon

25th April ~ ANZAC Day



25th April ~ ANZAC Day

Myrtleford Lodge will be holding a memorial service on  
23rd April for Residents .

## April Birthdays



April 2nd - Donald Cunnington

April 4th - Sheila Kennedy

April 8th - Dawn Arbuthnot

April 13th - Ivan Jelinic

April 14th - Audrey Farrar

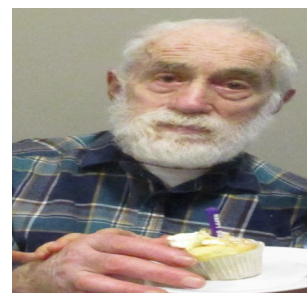
April 19th - Teresina Novak

24th April - Donald Arnold



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

Each month a special Birthday Breakfast is held for the residents celebrating a birthday during the month by enjoying a cooked breakfast.



Pictured is two of our residents, Donald and Frances enjoying some birthday cake.

In loving memory

Rosina Perri

19/4/31 to 24/03/21



Myrtleford Lodge Residents, Staff & Management extend sincere condolences to the family during this sad time of the passing of Rosina.

May Rosina rest in peace

## ***A note from the Administration Desk***

### Entry to Facility

Whilst Covid requirements have relaxed, we remind visitors to Myrtleford Lodge that the sign in procedures remain unchanged. You still are required to sanitise your hands, check your temperature, fill out the declaration and wear a mask. We also require that you only visit the room of the resident or maybe enjoy the outside area. Currently visitors are not allowed to visit in the communal areas of the facility.

### Suggestions, Complaints, Improvement forms:

Residents/Resident Representatives are reminded that we welcome your thoughts and feedback. Improvement forms are available from the front entrance area, please ask Administration Staff for assistance should you require it.

### Newsletters and Calendars of Events:

Newsletters and Calendars of daily events are distributed throughout the facility, however if you would like to receive the Newsletter by email, please advise Administration Staff of your email address or alternatively send an email to:

[admin@myrtlefordlodge.com.au](mailto:admin@myrtlefordlodge.com.au)

And we will happily add you to our contacts list, alternatively the Newsletter can be viewed on our Website.

[www.bentleywoodpl.com.au](http://www.bentleywoodpl.com.au)



**Bentley Wood Aged Care acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land and pays respect to Elders both past and present.**



**Bentley Wood Aged Care acknowledges and respects the diversity of our community and our consumers.**





# LEST WE FORGET



**Age shall not weary them  
nor the years condemn  
with the going down of the sun  
and in the morning  
we will remember them**