

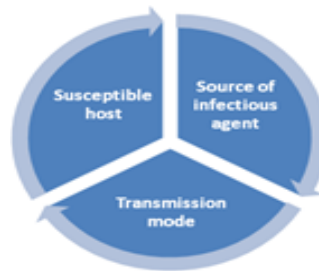


*Welcome to the June edition of;
"On the Grapevine",
The Myrtleford Lodge Residents &
Representatives monthly Newsletter.*

Infection Control in Residential aged care:

This month we thought it most topical to discuss our recent Covid outbreaks, ongoing Pandemic and the Influenza season that is upon us. The importance of increased adherence to Infection control standards from all those that enter residential aged care facilities is crucial in protecting the most vulnerable.

Implementing standard required transmission-based chain of infection and reduces developing a healthcare-



precautions and where precautions breaks the the risk of residents associated infection.

Standard precautions include; hand hygiene, personal protective equipment, staff and resident health including a vaccination program, respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette, aseptic technique for procedures, management of blood and body substance spills, correct handling and disposing of sharps, correct handling of linen, waste management, pest control, environmental cleaning and a food safety program.

Outbreak control measures are implemented in a timely manner to minimise the spread of infection. Timely and appropriate communication of information to staff, residents, visitors and authorities is a key component of outbreak management.

Providers must:

- Provide quality care and ensure the safety and wellbeing of residents and staff, including by adhering to applicable quality standards and work, health, and safety requirements.
- Follow state/territory government directions and decisions.
- Follow the guidance and/or advice from the relevant local public health unit (LPHU), including complying with public health orders, staff, and infection control requirements in their facility.
- Develop and maintain a facility-specific outbreak management plan.

RACF have responsibilities to:

- detect, declare, and notify cases to the state/territory health departments or LPHU, and the Department of Health and other relevant stakeholders.



- recognise when exposures or outbreaks occur using standard definitions.
- manage the situation or outbreak in accordance with the facility OMP and guidance and/or advice from the relevant commonwealth and state or territory department of health.
- maintain quality care, wellbeing and safety of all residents and staff

- establish and maintain regular communication in appropriate language or modality, with staff, residents and families regarding the outbreak

As part of the planning and preparation phase, identify exposed and at-risk residents and staff and together develop appropriate mitigations to manage risk of COVID-19/Influenza in case of an outbreak or exposure.

- follow jurisdictional directions, guidance, and advice on outbreak management measures, including advice on infection prevention and control (IPC) and appropriate use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and rapid antigen testing for screening and diagnosis:

- implement IPC actions via facility infection prevention and control lead/s
- support adherence to quarantine and isolation requirements
- support adherence to workplace directions by jurisdictional public health authorities

Bentley Wood has controls in place to reduce the risk of COVID-19/Influenza and other viruses entering the facility.

Staff, family members of residents, and other visitors can transmit respiratory viruses to residents.

High density living, frequent close personal care contact, complex centralised systems and frequently used surfaces and areas all contribute to residential care facilities being at particularly high risk.



Therefore, we need to ensure they have appropriate screening measures in place on entry to a facility. Bentley Wood will continue a testing program as part of their risk management measures.

All visitors need to RAT prior to entry, sign in and complete the declaration as well as take your temperature.

We would also like to acknowledge the fantastic effort that all staff went to ensure care needs were met in such challenging circumstances during the most recent outbreaks. Many staff were also unwell which placed pressure on all staff, however they attended to resident's care needs to the best of their ability and according to many residents this was appreciated by all.

We request all residents and representatives be extra vigilant with infection control and hand hygiene at all times. Use the hand sanitiser around the facility; wear a mask at all times when visiting and once again:

DO NOT VISIT IF YOU ARE UNWELL WITH ANYTHING.

Good personal health and hygiene habits prevent the virus from both spreading.

In the event of an influenza/covid outbreak, volunteers and visitors may be restricted access to the facility. This is to maximise resident and staff protection.

The annual influenza vaccination is the most successful measure used to protect against the flu.

Well done to everyone for managing these challenging times and let's all work together to keep the bugs and viruses away and our most vulnerable safe!!

Marita Seamer - Director of Nursing

Food safety regulations

Whilst the residential care facility is the resident's home, due to food safety requirements, staff cannot be responsible for food brought in by residents or their relatives.

Foods of *high risk* such as, poultry, seafood, dairy products, meat and small goods (e.g. sliced ham, roast beef, chicken), eggs, rice, pasta brought in by the resident or relatives /friends must be kept at an acceptable temperature by bringing it in a suitable container such as; insulated bag \pm an ice brick or a thermos flask and consumed at the time of being brought to the facility. Staff must not store these food items or reheat them.

Foodstuffs with any potential contravention to the Food Safety Regulations must be disposed of by resident, representative and/or staff. This includes foodstuffs stored in resident rooms.

Food of low risk such as; biscuits, unfilled cakes, fruit, lollies are acceptable to be stored and served.

The Register of Food Donated /Brought to the Facility (27.2.3) is maintained and needs to be completed if you bring food into the facility located in kitchen

You must not give brought in food to other residents not only because of the food safety requirements but because the resident may have a medical condition that may prevent them from eating the food including the possibility that they may choke.



Activities at Myrtleford Lodge

Myrtleford Lodge Residents as part of the Cancer Council Australia's biggest morning tea fundraiser held a morning tea for Residents and Staff.



\$137.50 was raised, thankyou to everyone who contributed to the organisation of the morning.



Activities at Myrtleford Lodge

Myrtleford Lodge Residents took advantage of a beautiful sunny morning and visited the local Riding for the Disabled group where they were able to interact with the group and their beautiful assistance horses.



Shirley Mitchell, Jill Weight and John Abbott enjoyed the horse coming to say hello and Sheila Kennedy was also able to enjoy a pat as well.



Activities at Myrtleford Lodge

We have certainly been enjoying some lovely late Autumn sunshine enabling some outside activities including many walks.



Mary Farquharson, Shirley Mitchell and Jill Weight enjoy any chance to enjoy a walk together stopping to admire the autumn colours.

Staff member Clare, Jenny Seewitz and John Abbott were also out and about soaking up the sun.



Activities at Myrtleford Lodge

A lovely donation was gratefully received of a fantastic crocheted blanket. Joyce McDonald did a wonderful job as organiser with the running of the raffle.



The drawing of the Raffle....DRUM ROLL!!!



Activities at Myrtleford Lodge

AND the lucky winner was
Pat Waite !!!
Congratulations Pat!



Ralph and Fran Bailey enjoying some time for a
Cuddle together.

Special Events Calendar



1st June ~ Change of season. Welcome winter
~ Country Drive

8th June ~ Birthday Breakfast

10th June ~ Happy Hour

9th June ~ Country Drive; 2 buses,
destination to be decided

13th June ~ Queens Birthday
~ Public Holiday

15th June ~ Country Drive

21ST June ~ Winter Solstice

At the Winter Solstice, the sun travels the shortest path through the sky resulting in the day of the year with the least sunlight and therefore, the longest night

23rd June ~ Music Trivia

22nd June ~ Country Drive

29th June ~ Country Drive

Further activities are listed on the activities boards daily including,
Bingo,

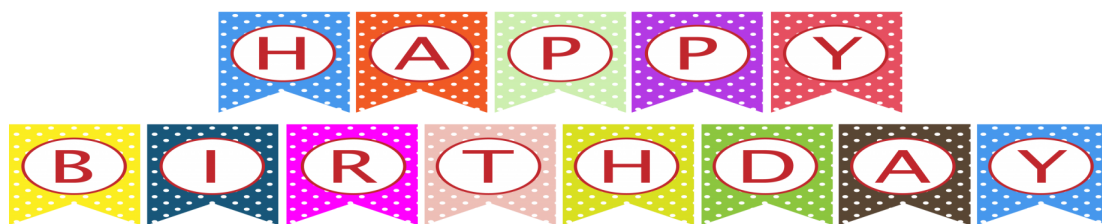
Board games,

Word games,

Music Trivia,

Carpet Bowls,

Bus Trips and more.



2nd June ~ Lynne Hulley

2nd June ~ Janet Martin

3rd June ~ Betty Forbes

15th June ~ Hans Van Heek

17th June ~ Zena Atkinson

20th June ~ Sidney Rennef

21st June ~ John Abbott

23rd June ~ June Johnson

24th June ~ Sydney Pollett

25th June ~ Pat Hogg

29th June ~ Nellie Biffin



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

In loving memory of;

Isabel Robertson

Myrtleford Lodge Residents & Staff extend sincere condolences to Isabel's family and friends.

Isabel will be remembered as a beautiful kind and generous lady. Isabel tendered to all of the flowers at Myrtleford Lodge



A note from the Administration Desk

Valuables and spending money (from the Consumer Handbook)

Consumers are discouraged from having valuables or large amounts of cash. We are not able to take responsibility for the loss of valuables or money despite all endeavours to maintain and promote a secure environment. If you or your family have valuables in your room you do so at your own risk.

Spending money (petty cash) for the purchase of small items or services such as hairdressing and outings can be managed by the Lifestyle Program staff.

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

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

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

