



mayflower
Community and Care

Grapevine

December 2009 ISSUE 61

Christmas



POST APPROVED 350940-0004 ABN 57 004 507 644

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Welcome to our new Residents and Staff



The Magic of Christmas Music

Let Us Adorned, Melody

Through the window he saw an elderly woman, her face lit by a candle as she sat listening to the radio and singing along to the carols being played.

It was 1937, and as radio identity Norman Banks passed the woman's home, his imagination was captured by the beautiful scene. Within twelve months, he had organised the first Australian outdoor Carols by Candlelight held in Melbourne.

Across our country this year, in backyards, local parks, churches and city entertainment areas, thousands of people will gather outdoors to sing their favourite Christmas songs.

For people of all ages, the music of 'Silent night', 'I'm dreaming of a white Christmas' or 'So this is Christmas' will stir the emotions, cause the eyes to mist or bring back memories of past Christmases. The magic of Christmas is at work.

Bright eyed children will delight to add their voices to the music of fun songs such as 'Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer', 'Santa

Deck the Halls

Claus is coming to town', or even an Australian carol like, 'Six white boomers'. Parents and grandparents will add their voices to the music - having as much fun as the children.

Then the majesty of Handel's 'Hallelujah Chorus' will bring the crowds to their feet, some of them standing on their toes to reach the high musical notes!

Whatever the song, at this time of the year it is the music of Christmas that touches our hearts, lifts our spirits and unites us in a spirit of peace and goodwill to all.

And finally, people unknown to each other, will link arms and raise their voices to the music as they sing, 'We wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year'.

Such is the magic of Christmas music.

Mayflower staff and residents wish all of our friends and supporters a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



FROM THE CEO's desk

The weeks leading up to Christmas are always a lovely time of year, the excitement in the air and the warmer weather puts a spring in everyone's step. The past few months have been as busy as ever.

In October, Stonnington Council bestowed the Citizen of the Year award on Peter Norman, the Mayflower Chairman. This award recognises Peter's ongoing commitment and contribution to the community (which is not limited to Stonnington). On behalf of Mayflower, I would like to formally congratulate Peter on this award and thank him for his continued support of, and commitment to Mayflower.

I would also like to welcome Mr Shane Wright to the Board of Directors. Shane is the Director, Capacity Development, of the Metropolitan Fire & Emergency Services Board. Shane is a career fireman, has studied at Harvard University, and is a Williamson Fellow. We are thrilled to have Shane on the Board and we welcome his contribution to Board discussions, decision making and strategic planning.

Joanne King commenced with Mayflower as the Recreation Manager and Volunteer Coordinator of both our Brighton and Reservoir residential facilities. Joanne has a background in recreation and was previously employed by Southern Health. She has hit the ground running and has already commenced work on revamping our recreation programme. She is a welcome addition to the management team and I'm sure you join me in wishing her well in her new role.

At the end of October, Mayflower celebrated Halloween in the Helen McPherson Smith Hall. The residents enjoyed a specially prepared menu of Eyeball Soup, Devil's Roast Beef and Little Blind Mice for dessert. The hall was decorated with jack o'lanterns and hand-made decorations and everyone wore their most 'wicked' costumes. The lunch was enjoyed by all who attended and it was great to see the residents dressed up and participating on the day.



A month earlier, Mayflower also celebrated Medieval Day. The hall was decorated to look like a castle and both staff and residents dressed up in Medieval costume. A King and Queen were appointed and they ruled the day from their thrones. It was all good fun and enjoyed by both staff and residents.

During the year, the residents at Reservoir make Christmas decorations which help Mayflower Reservoir raise money for their craft activities. This year's Christmas sale has commenced and we look forward to your support for this activity. Both sites have prepared their Christmas raffles and tickets can be purchased at the Reception Desks at either site.



Our building works at Brighton are progressing well with the building well and truly on the way to lock-up stage. The colours and most of the finishes have been chosen and it is very exciting watching the new facility come alive.



On a personal note, Christmas is a season of reflection, and an opportunity to spend quality time with my family. The past year has provided an opportunity for Mayflower to consolidate many aspects of its operation in order to prepare for the challenges of the months ahead. I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and offer you my best wishes for the year ahead. Enjoy your families and celebrate your time together. Until next year...

Frances Mirabelli
Chief Executive Officer

Citizen of the Year



Mayflower Chairman Peter Norman recently received the Citizen of the Year Award from Stonnington Council.

Peter received the award for his outstanding community work. Peter has been on the board of Mayflower for more than 15 years and Chairman for five. He received the award at a ceremony at Malvern Town Hall in September. Peter received the award for his work with the East Malvern Community Bank. He has been Chairman of the Bank since it opened for business 9 1/2 years ago. In that time, it has distributed \$1,000,000 in grants to community organisations in the area. Peter is also a life member of the RACV and has been a member of Rotary for 32 years. He is particularly active in Rotary's overseas aid programme and earlier this year flew to Papua where Rotary installs water tanks in remote villages. He and his colleagues surveyed a village where the residents walk 40 minutes to the river to collect their water and 40 minutes back to the village. They do that twice a day.



Congratulations Peter we are all very proud of you!

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE



Tickets can be purchased at the Reception Desks at Mayflower Brighton or Reservoir



Life's a Ball at Mayflower

September brought the spring flowers and showers and put the 'wow' back in the Recreation Program.



In the early part of the month Mayflower Brighton, residents enjoyed a bus trip for a Mornington street market shop, followed by lunch at many of the cafes. Mornington has to offer and the chance to pick up a bargain at the market.

Fathers Day kicked off to a great start with a breaky of bacon and eggs and served to residents by staff dressed in their pyjamas, some with curlers in their hair.



Residents and family members enjoyed the AFL Grand Final at Brighton with lunch in the Hall. Our Chef served pies and sausage rolls there was a beer or two and much cheering and booing of the teams. It was a great day. However, not everyone wanted Geelong to win...still, there is always next year.

Brighton residents enjoyed a Medieval Lunch and entertainment in the hall. Everyone joined in the festivities and made it a truly wonderful event. Ralph Sierakowski was crowned King and was accompanied by Queen Angela Milne and Princess Audrey McKenzie. There were threats of a battle or two but they came to nothing as the Royals were too busy enjoying the food and entertainment.



Highlights from October included celebrating Halloween with a special creepy lunch with staff and residents dressing up in their spooky best for the day. The chef fried some toads, stewed a few spiders, and served them up on a bed of poison ivy with sautéed worms. Delicacies like these are hard to come by but worth the effort as the witches and gnomes declared them delicious!

Residents certainly made the most of the spring sunshine at Reservoir with a BBQ lunch of hamburgers, steak, and chops served with loads of delicious salad.

They also got up close and personal with the animals at Werribee Zoo...a most enjoyable experience and the following week took a big bus to the Doncaster Hotel, Shopping Town for lunch and a very talented entertainer. Every month Reservoir residents go to the movies at the Westgarth Cinema. It is a great day that includes lunch and a current film.



November meant we were in the midst of the Spring Racing Carnival. Melbourne Cup fever took over at both Reservoir and Brighton with residents celebrating with a champagne and chicken lunch and little flutter on a Cup sweep.

We are grateful to the Hampton R.S.L for holding a Remembrance Day ceremony at Mayflower. Many residents appreciate the time to reflect on loved ones and mates who are no longer around.



During November, residents had the opportunity to view a fascinating pictorial history of Brighton. Many were keenly interested in the subject and had made wonderful comments on changes they observed in their local community.

We also had a visit from Judy's travelling Treasures. It gives residents the opportunity to purchase Christmas gifts.

Brighton and Reservoir residents love a celebration and support the monthly Happy Hour, which gives them time to socialise and enjoy the entertainment with a drink and some nice nibbles.



Welcome to new staff & residents

New Residents - Brighton
 Shirley Keenan
 Margaret Woodroffe
 Brian Miller
 Mavis Roberts

CACP - Brighton
 Evelyn Purcell
 Helen Meyers
 Paula Milder
 Mendel Saler
 Zena Jaron
 Ethel Hird

New Residents- Reservoir
 William Hyde
 Mohammadali Sallehpour
 Beryl O'Leary
 John Brennan
 John O'Leary

New Staff - Brighton
 Sevda Serbest
 Rajiv Bhatia
 Rosemarie Crawford
 Menuka Asarappulige
 Atike Gok
 Vijay Korat Aka Patel
 Linn Fagerstrom
 Maria Bernardo
 Donna Carson
 Joanne King

New Staff - Reservoir
 Michelle King
 Tracy Gallagher



Mayflower welcomes Joanne King



Joanne recently joined Mayflower as the Recreation Manager and Volunteer Coordinator for Brighton and Reservoir.

Joanne comes to us from Southern Health where she organised the activities for the five Residential Aged Care units

for more than 7 years. She has a lot of valuable experience and has attained her Diploma Diversional Therapy, plus a Management Diploma, and completed the Agency Accreditation Assessors Training Course. She says the best thing about her work is making a change in someone's life, by giving the best possible care.

On a more personal level, Joanne has two beautiful teenage girls who she describes as both delightful and challenging and says she would not change a thing.

Handing it Over

Fundraising Manager, Jill Nichols has handed over the job of Coordinating the Volunteer Program to Recreation Manager Joanne King.

Joanne will hold bi-monthly meetings in the Hall at Mayflower to encourage volunteers to exchange ideas and to keep everyone up to date with new developments while supporting them in their important role with the organisation.

Do you want to be Volunteer?

Mayflower has many opportunities available for volunteers at both Reservoir and Brighton. If you would like to learn more about how you can help please give Joanne King a call on 9592-2774. Joanne is keen to chat with you about your interests and match your skills with the many opportunities at Mayflower.

Mayflower Fundraiser

The Brighton Theatre Company has kindly donated the proceeds of the Directors Preview of Blackbird to Mayflower. Blackbird is a play by David Harrower and directed by Shane Ryan. This play is about a couple, Una and Ray, who fifteen years ago, embarked on a relationship that changed their lives. Now Una has tracked down Ray in the debris-littered lunchroom of the factory where he works. Is she seeking vengeance? Or something altogether more complex? The mutual recollection of their time together culminates in an explosive conclusion

Director's performance for Mayflower at the

Brighton Town Hall
 Wilson Street Brighton
 Wednesday 24 February 2010
 7.45pm

Tickets \$25 each
 includes supper.



The Brighton Theatre Company selected this important play as its entry to the forthcoming Victorian Drama League Awards.

To book your tickets please fill in the form and return it to Mayflower or telephone 9592 2774

Name _____ Number of tickets _____

Address _____ Postcode _____

Please find enclosed my cheque or deduct \$ _____ from my Visa _____ Mastercard _____

_____/_____/_____/_____

Expiry date ____/____/____ Name on Card _____

Signature _____

Donate to the Mayflower Building Appeal

Please send me -

- Copy of Bequest Brochure
- Information on becoming a regular supporter
- Information about Volunteers
- Information on how I can help with fundraising

yes I want to make a gift of \$ _____ to Mayflower

Please find my cheque enclosed OR

Please debit my Visa Bankcard Mastercard

Card No.

SIGNATURE _____ EXPIRY DATE ____/____/____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ POSTCODE _____

TELEPHONE _____ EMAIL _____

DONATIONS TO MAYFLOWER ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

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