

Activities

All our activities are geared towards Christmas Celebrations now.

During October and November we went on our bus trips, a picnic in Rosepoint Park and many lunch outings.

We celebrated Melbourne Cup with many games and a special lunch. The day was enjoyed by everyone (especially the ones who won on the sweeps).

A number of Residents went to the Singleton Community Christmas Party in John Street on Friday 25th November. It was a very enjoyable evening.

Clinton's dogs came for a visit which the residents loved.

In December we are having the Generation Singers, a visit and display (pop-up-shop) from Lowes, King St School Band and Choir are also coming to entertain.

Our carols by candlelight will be held on 14th December at 5pm. All welcome.

The residents will also be going on bus trips to look at Christmas Lights on 20th & 21st December.

Merry Christmas

Jenny Yates



White Chocolate and Berry Cheesecake

Ingredients:

- 12 Cottage Cookies White Choc & Macadamia Biscuits
- 300g frozen mixed berries
- 2 tablespoons boiling water
- 3 1/2 teaspoons powdered gelatin
- 180g white chocolate, chopped
- 2 x 250g blocks Philadelphia cream cheese, softened
- 1/3 cup caster sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 185ml can light evaporated milk

Method:

- 1: Line base and sides of a 6cm-deep, 22cm round spring form pan with baking powder. Arrange biscuits in a single layer over base of pan. Top with half the berries. Place boiling water in a small heatproof jug. Sprinkle over gelatin. Using a fork whisk until gelatin has dissolved.
- 2: Place chocolate in a heatproof microwave-safe bowl. Microwave uncovered on high for 1—2 minutes stirring every 30 seconds or until melted and smooth. Set aside.
- 3: Using an electric mixer beat cream cheese, sugar and vanilla until smooth, Gradually beat in evaporated milk, chocolate and gelatin mixture, Pour cream cheese mixture into pan. Scatter with remaining berries. Cover and refrigerate overnight or until set



Mercy Services

CHATS

on Combo

Oct, Nov, Dec

2016 Issue 4

From the desk of the Director of Care Services...



Hello everyone,

This has to be one of my most favourite times of the year. We are winding down the year but stepping up our activities with the residents, volunteers, families and staff.

Our Christmas celebrations commenced in November when we hosted a volunteer's luncheon at the bowling club, where most of our wonderful volunteers, who care so much for Mercy and the residents, attended a scrumptious Christmas feast. This function was attended by our new CEO, Tony Bidstrup, who was appointed 2 months ago. Tony was extremely surprised and happy that we have such fantastic support from such a dedicated team of volunteers.

Tony comes from a banking and insurance background. He also has a strong ministry background with his church. Tony wants to be a big part of Mercy Singletons life, so don't be surprised when you see Tony helping with the BBQ or moving furniture for our Day on the Lawn. Tony wants to be "hands on" and I have a feeling he will be a huge asset to all at Mercy.

It goes without saying our visiting GP's have been an enormous support for our residents. Our wonderful RN's work closely with them in order to provide excellent medical and clinical care for the residents at Mercy. In saying that, where would we be without our dedicated team of care staff, service staff and maintenance staff? They keep the day to day running of the residents and the home going. The residents are extremely well cared for, the place looks clean and comfortable and especially well maintained.

Over the year we have had the good fortune in being supported by several allied health providers who have done an excellent job in assessing residents for the particular needs.

Richard Fox and his team have attended to the residents foot needs every 6 - 8 weeks without fail.

Selena McCaig from Hunter New England Health has assessed many resident for the speech and swallowing needs.

Liam McCudden from ETHOS health has visited numerous times to review our menus, assessed resident's personal diet requirements and has educated staff in areas of nutritional needs.

Guy Higgins and his Team at Singleton Physiotherapy, have been an almost weekly service for assessing mobility and balance for the majority of the residents. Guy also attends to all staff pre-employment checks and health cares if needed.

Fiona Lyons is an Occupational Therapist who has been an invaluable health worker visiting the residents who require special equipment to mobilise or get around in. OT's are hard to get a hold of and Fiona always makes time to come from Newcastle to see us.

The local Optometrists who have been available for our residents are OPSM, Kevin O'Brien and Adam Maher at the Eye Place. At this stage the optometrists do not visit the home, but are more than accommodating for our residents visiting them.

MS Dental have visited the home this year and are able to attend to basic check-ups and denture cares. Appointments can be made with Vicki and when there are up to 6 residents requiring help, we call on the Dental team.

December 14 we are having our Carols night. This is an exciting time for all residents, families and staff. Christmas dinner will be yum as usual with all the trimmings.

I would like to wish EVERYONE a safe and happy festive season and a Happy New Year. Thank you to our lovely residents, dear friends, wonderful families and dedicated staff for ALL your support.

Cathy



Resident News

Since our last newsletter we have farewelled the following residents: Bill Ralston, Angela Serhan, Myra Horne, Sr Catherine, Ethel Dunn, Mary Hands, Ruth Watson and Jane Curry

To their families we offer our sincere and prayerful sympathy. We pray that God will give them eternal peace & happiness. May perpetual light shine upon them.

We welcome to the Mercy family Shirley Allen, Dennit White, Maria Debelak, James Wilson, Marion Muddle, Sr Bernadette and Flo Cox
We trust that you will be very happy here and that you will make the Mercy your home.



RESIDENT PROFILE

Dennit was born in Gloucester to Russell and Doris White on the 15/8/1941. He was the 2nd child.

The family moved to Aberdeen when he was a small boy and the family stayed on the farm and worked it until they retired.

Dennit went to Aberdeen primary school and left in 5th class to help work on the family farm. He continued working there for another 5 yrs and then went to work on the Hordons Farm where he worked as a Jack of all Trades

He met his wife Everlyn in Scone when he was 22yrs old and married at 23yrs old. They had 5 children.

Everlyn and Dennit divorced after 15yrs marriage and he raised the 5 kids on his own.

The house they lived in burnt down and they were moved into another house on the property. Dennit moved from the farm to Denman and lived there until moving to the Mercy in 2016



Birthdays...
Celebrating birthdays in October, November and December are:

Flo Cox 13th October
Ron Café 24th October
Marion Muddle 6th November
Col Picton 15th November
Shirley Allen 13th December
Norma Heuston 26th December
Norma Jackson 26th December
Carole Boughton 29th December

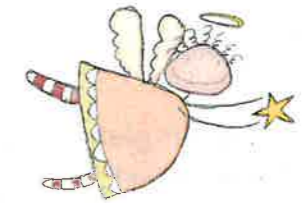


IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- 2nd December—Generation Singers
- 7th December—Lowes Display
- 14th December—King St School performance
- 14th December—Carols by Candlelight 5pm
- 20th December—Christmas Lights Bus Trip 7.30pm
- 21st December—Christmas Light Bus Trip 7.30pm



O HOLY NIGHT



The best of all gifts around the Christmas tree: The presence of a happy family all wrapped up in each other.



CHRISTMAS JOKES

- What do you call a kid who doesn't believe in Santa?
A rebel without a Claus.
- What do you call an elf who sings?
A wrapper!
- Why is Christmas just like your job?
You do all the work and the fat guy with the suit gets all the credit.
- Why does Santa Claus go down the chimney on Christmas Eve?
Because it soot's him
- Why are Christmas trees so fond of the past?
Because the present's beneath them.
- What do you call a broke Santa? Give up yet?
It's Saint-NICKEL-LESS
- What do you get if you eat Christmas decorations?
Tinselitis!
- What do you call a cat on the beach at Christmas time?
Sandy Claws!



Staff News

We welcomed a number of new staff over the last months. Di Weinert, Emily Reed, Georgia Gardner, Racheal Barret and Lindsay Campbell. We hope you enjoy your time at Mercy Services.

Amanda was married in September. We wish Amanda and Bryce a lifetime of happiness.

Emily (one of our new staff members) was also married in September. We wish Emily and Sam a wonderful life together.



The staff Christmas Party was held on 10th December. Thank you to all staff who attended on the day.

Wishing you all a very safe and happy Christmas and New Year.

CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH AND DINNER

If you are taking a resident out for lunch or dinner on Christmas Day, could you please let RN or Admin know as soon as possible.

Or if you would like to have lunch here at The Mercy you are more than welcome. The cost for lunch is \$35 per person and children under 5 \$10. We need to know numbers ASAP for catering.

