



ILLAWARRA
DIGGERS
CARING FOR THE COMMUNITY'S AGED



Merry Christmas!





CEO's Message

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our Residents, Staff, Volunteers and Families

I am writing this little note on Monday 19 December having spent a wonderful day with our residents at our pre-Christmas function. All our staff did a wonderful job preparing the undercover car park and hosting some 70 residents (and Santa) for a great event. This edition will no doubt have some terrific photos as we all had a wonderful time.

This year has been another tough one for our residents and families as well as our staff as we continued to deal with the ongoing threat of COVID and its attendant restrictions. Last January saw our first cases of COVID after nearly two years of restrictions and we worked through one moderate and two minor outbreaks through 2022. As with 2020 and 2021, our residents were stoic and accepting of whatever we had

to deal with and the staff did a marvellous job of keeping them safe and well in body and mind.

In the midst of all this, we also had our three year reaccreditation by the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission in April. It had been delayed more than 12 months due to COVID so it was well over 4 years since our previous full review. We were very pleased and proud to have achieved full accreditation in all 42 requirements of the Standards, a credit to the hard work of our staff and the department managers.

While COVID remains an ongoing shadow over our home and community, it is receding slightly into our normal operating protocols (one day we may be able to stop wearing masks!!!) and so we look forward to a better 2023 with more connection to our community. Hopefully we will be able to welcome our pre-schoolers back for regular visits as well as other school and community groups to connect with our residents.

From our Board of Directors and all our Management Team, we wish you a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.

Kind Regards and Christmas Cheer

Peter Whittall
CEO

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