



ILLAWARRA  
**DIGGERS**  
CARING FOR THE COMMUNITY'S AGED



NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2014



## CEO'S MESSAGE

Hello and welcome to the last stages of 2014. It's hard to believe where the year has gone.

In this edition of the Newsletter we profile the Remembrance Day service from 11th November. This has been and remains a very significant day in Diggers' year along with ANZAC Day.

We remember all those from Commonwealth countries who have given their lives in various battles since World War 1, to ensure our society's precious freedoms have been earned and maintained. We hope this gives you a picture of the significance it is to us.

In the meantime we continue to plan for a major extension and upgrade to the home.

As I write we are waiting for news from Council on the success of our DA. If approved we will move quickly to develop construction documentation to enable building of a new wing to commence as soon as possible followed by refurbishment of existing wings, the entrance and other areas.

It is an exciting project and one that will, after some disruption, improve safety, accommodation and facilities for residents. Our aim is to minimise that disruption but inevitably there will be some.

We will be undergoing our three yearly accreditation audit by the Australian Aged Quality Agency on 9th and 10th of December and you are welcome to discuss your views of the home and the standards of care we provide with the assessors.

We also invite you at any time to discuss those with us and certainly if you have any concerns we would appreciate you telling us in order to give us the opportunity to improve what we do.

We have taken on a number of new staff recently and we welcome them to Diggers'.

We are proud of what we do and it is as a result of the commitment of our staff to ensuring the best they possibly

can for residents. It never makes us complacent though, we can always improve what we do and we welcome any suggestion you might offer.

With the festive season fast approaching, we look forward to sharing it with residents and families. Please let us know if you are attending any of the functions or meals over the period to ensure we cater for you and please let us know if you are going to be out during any period.

Till next time.

Rex Leighton  
Chief Executive Officer

## GENERAL NEWS

Hello Everyone,

Since our last Newsletter a number of special events have taken place here at the Diggers.

A Fathers Day afternoon tea was held for residents and their families. All who attended enjoyed the afternoon with their families and friends.

Melbourne Cup Day was abuzz with everyone having a dabble in sweeps and the afternoon was enjoyed with drinks/nibbles/lucky door prizes and a laugh with the short skit performed then viewing the race. Congratulations to all who were lucky on the day.

As part of the community for National Bandana Day we participated selling badges/pens/Bandanas which raised \$284.10. Thankyou to all who donated to support young people living with cancer.

Remembrance Day, Diggers Service 2014 was a very moving experience as always. The pride felt for our ex servicemen can not be acknowledged enough. A special thank you to all who participated in our service-Resident (ex serviceman) Gordon Tierney who recited the ode with great pride.

Wreath laying, Residents Gordon Tierney, Des Stevenson, Staff-Lois, Guest John Sperring Corrimal Public School Choir, Poem of Remembrance and song of tribute, True Blue Guest speaker Flight Lieutenant John Sperring 314 squadron Wollongong Australian Air Force Cadets.

Illawarra Bag Pipe Band members, John, Bill, Bob, Buglar Ron Overs. Pastor Paul Weber and Rachel Weber from the Baptist Living in Hope Church Corrimal. Flag master staff member Paul.

Also thank you to those who attended to show their respect on this very significant day.

Well here it is, time to sort Christmas decorations, activities and events for ending the year 2014 how fast has this year gone!



# HONOURING OUR VETERANS

Remembrance Day  
11.11.14





## MEET THE STAFF

**NAME:**

Mandy Pratt

**BORN:**

Coledale Hospital

**YEARS WITH DIGGERS:**

9 years

**FAMILY:**

Husband Edward, two children – son Ben and daughter Elizabeth

**FAVOURITE FOOD/RESTAURANT:**

Pizza mine - it's better than any Italian

**FAVOURITE ALL TIME MOVIE:**

Grease "you're the one that I want" had a pair of those leather pants

**FAVOURITE TV PROGRAM:**

Home and Away

**BEST PLACE VISITED:**

Tasmania

**HOBBIES:**

Motor bike riding on Harleys

**MOST HUMILIATING MOMENT**

Too many to highlight any one.

### General News Contined...

Letters have gone out to families for Christmas information and closing dates for confirmation.

Don't forget to collect your program for December.

*Quote: A Friend is a push when you've stopped, A word when you're lonely, A guide when you're searching, A smile when you're sad and a song when you're glad.*

Till next time folks, take care, god bless from your lifestyle crew.

## UPCOMING EVENTS...

**Tuesday 9.12.2014**

**Recreation Room 1.30pm**

Ladies Auxiliaries visit social afternoon with residents

**Friday 19.12.2014**

**Recreation Room 6.30pm**

Carols by candle light with entertainer Susie J all welcome

**Saturday 20.12.2014**

**Main Dining Room 2.30-3.30pm**

Special Christmas Afternoon tea for residents and families\*\*\*

**Wednesday 24.12.2014**

**Recreation Room 10.30am**

Christmas Cheer at Diggers

**Thursday 25.12.2014**

**Christmas Day Lunch**

Will be served at 12 midday\*\*\*

**Wednesday 31.12.2014**

**Recreation Room 1.30pm**

New years Eve, Party time

\*\*\*\* If you are a relative or guest wishing to attend please ensure that you advise us well in advance to assist with catering

Front Page: Korean veteran Gordon Tierney at this year's Remembrance Day Service.

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