

DOHA MEETS PHBNH

On Thursday, 12 August 2010 Steve Wood and Geoff Kellam from DoHA came to Pyramid Hill Bush Nursing Hospital (PHBNH) to meet with Ann and the managers, speak with residents, view the refurbished rooms and tour the aged care facility and the old hospital rooms.

A number of residents spoke with Steve and Geoff about the advancements that had been made and what it meant for their care, support and lifestyle.

Steve stated that excellent progress had been made and he was informed by the Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency that eight of the 22 Non-Compliances had been lifted. Steve was also of the opinion that with the progress being made so far, he felt confident that PHBNH should gain full Accreditation before Christmas...in fact he went on to say that there should be a really good Christmas party this year.



Steve Wood, Geoff Kellam, Ann Rough, Faye Graham, Pauline Torney and Bryan Cooper at the recent DoHA meeting.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

- PHBNH advertised new positions and 45 people applied for these. Sixteen people were appointed across a care, hospitality and maintenance positions.
- Weekly PHBNH Project Team meetings continue to focus on the planning and implementation of the Accreditation and Compliance Project, working on the 22 Non-Compliances contained in the Continuous Improvement Plan for PHBNH.
- The third residents, carers and community meeting was held on Sunday, 25 July and proved to be another successful and informative session for participants.
- Each week Ann and Michael continue to have regular telephone and email discussions with Steve Wood and Geoff Kellam from DoHA and also send them weekly reports on the issues and progress being made.
- Ann and the Senior Management Team have met with the Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency on two occasions, specifically they are monitoring progress against the 22 Non-Compliances and the agreed timetable for improvement.
- Existing and new staff have commenced an extensive annual training program, with the first sessions focusing on pain management, dementia care, occupational health and safety and organisational processes, policies and procedures.
- Peter Abraham, Chief Executive Officer, Boort District Health met with Ann, Michael, Bryan and managers to discuss medical and allied health service issues and opportunities. It was agreed that there will be a number of meetings over the coming months to determine the best options and way forward.
- Doctor Ashraf Takla is now visiting residents on a weekly basis and providing advice to care staff.

ACCREDITED YESTERDAY, NON-COMPLIANCE TODAY

In recent weeks there have been a numbers of queries or Letters to the Editor from residents and community members in the Pyramid Hill Newsletter, questioning how PHBNH could be accredited one day and then fall into Non-Compliance or possible Sanctions the next day.

In the next issue of the Pyramid Hill Newsletter, produced by the Pyramid Hill College, there will be an article focused on answering six questions on how a residential aged care organisation, or in this case PHBNH, can be accredited one day and receive Non-Compliances or Sanctions the next day.

OP SHOP VOLUNTEERS PROVIDE A VITAL SERVICE

Betty Mann, Chairperson and Margaret Reynolds who are on the Opportunity Shop Auxiliary recently met with Ann and Michael to discuss the vital service they provide to the community and the significant financial contribution they make to specific projects that enhance the lives of residents at PHBNH.



Op Shop discussions.

Betty and Margaret spoke of the need to undertake some painting work, upgrade the spouting, improve signage and replace light fittings at the Op Shop. Ann agreed to follow up these requests and is also meeting with the Auxiliary at their forthcoming annual general meeting to listen to ideas and improvement opportunities.

The Op Shop provides a comprehensive range of clothing, household items, furniture, books and bric-a-brac, a large percentage of which is donated by generous community members or businesses.

Betty and her Auxiliary members will meet with Ann in the coming weeks to discuss where funds can be directed for specific needs or projects of PHBNH.

WHO'S ON THE BOARD?

At a recent meeting of the Pyramid Hill Bush Nursing Hospital Board, the new Chairman, Arthur Graham, welcomed new Board members and set the scene for the continuation of aged care, medical and allied health services in Pyramid Hill.

The new directors are:



Arthur Graham, Chairman
Arthur is widely known for his significant contribution and work on boards of community organisations. He is the Managing Director of Arthur Graham and Associates based in Swan Hill.



Bruce Jones, Deputy Chairman
Bruce brings extensive skills, knowledge and experience from his time as a councillor in Local Government and his working life.



Bryan Cooper, Board Member
Bryan is Senior Project Manager with Stonehenge, a property development and project management group that specialises in residential and aged care developments and a range of other construction services.



William Maher, Board Member
Bill brings many years of experience and knowledge as a board member of community organisations, a farmer and business man, and a councillor in Local Government.

PAST COMMITTEE MEETS

Past committee members met last week to catch up with Ann and Bryan on the progress to date, discuss emerging projects and provide community feedback.



Past committee members meet with Ann and Bryan.

MORE STAFF, MORE CARE, MORE FUN

We welcome the following new staff who have joined the team at PHBNH and are part of the wider Alcheringa family. A number of people are known to residents, families or the community, whilst others have come from further afield. One of the most exciting things is that all new staff bring a wide range of aged care and other skills, knowledge and experience.

- Debbie O'Flaherty, Home Carer
- Tracey Clymo, Home Carer
- Lina Cresswell, Home Carer
- Cathryn Gunstone, PCA
- Katerina Jackson, PCA
- Ann Brambley, PCA
- Joelene Mason, PCA
- Verna Spittal, PCA
- Susan Green, Cook
- Cynthia Newton, FSA
- Karen Auritich, FSA
- Kenneth McMahon, Lifestyle
- Ann Gibson, Lifestyle
- Graham Thompson, Maintenance
- Xavier Bisson, Residential Care Manager
- Kim Hiun, Food and Domestic



PHBNH, always good for a cuppa and a chat...family, friends and community members are most welcome any time.

VIEW FROM THE PINNACLE...WHAT A SIGHT!

For those people who haven't had time to enjoy the view from The Pinnacle after the recent rains, our intrepid photo journalist made the journey and captured the contrasting colours and the ever greening landscape...a great contrast against the piles of gravel at the quarry, the blue water of the dam and the dark green of gums.



NEW BRANDING STRATEGY

The Alcheringa Board of Directors recently commissioned the development of a new branding strategy which will include common logos that will be used across Coates, Alcheringa, Swan Hill Village, and Pyramid Hill Bush Nursing Hospital. A range of designs will be circulated for comment in due course.

The Board is also very keen to consult with residents, families and staff about a new name for PHBNH. Please contact Ann with your suggestions.



A sure sign Spring is on the way; a flowering gum photographed on the Bendigo to Pyramid Hill Road.

FURTHER INFORMATION

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OFF TO THE SHOPS

Doug and Joyce Miles are regular walkers and were photographed on the commencement of their journey to the railway line.

Doug and Joyce recently moved into one of the five rooms that have been refurbished. These five rooms have a new coat of paint, carpets, curtains, beds and linen.

All rooms will be progressively refurbished with the aim of bringing them to meet the requirements of the four Aged Care Standards and 44 Outcomes of the Aged Care Act.

