



Message from the CEO

Given that there has been very little movement in and around Maroba, you may not have seen the new wall décor that I recently installed. It refers to Galatians 6:9 which provides to us the following encouragement 'And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart'.

When I came across this sign I was immediately captivated as my mind and heart connected with its message. Without a doubt the entire Maroba team is definitely **weary**, yet what I witness day in day out is our team 'doing good'. I can see that in spite of being physically and mentally fatigued, **no one here at Maroba is weary of doing good.**

Everyone is cheering on the other no matter the circumstance. Individuals have made sacrifice after sacrifice, working extra shifts, working overtime in full PPE, giving up their annual leave and holiday time with their children and time with their families who are also suffering with the consequences of being in a city dealing with Covid. Even though 69 staff have been furloughed since 17th December all have been keen to get back into their teams to support all in our care. All non-direct care staff worked well outside their duty lists and did anything that was asked to ensure care and connection was our absolute priority. They continue to do so.



Even though the reward is by no means financial, I do know that they all have reaped a harvest of gratitude and genuine admiration from YOU, our residents, and your families if the number of messages we have received is anything to go by. Even though there is denial at the highest level of Government that Aged care is in crisis, we must not lose heart.

We must continue to encourage one another regardless of our role in this big family we call Maroba. Share your wisdom with grace and patience, share the love in your heart with a smile or the touch of a hand, and share your words with humour and gratitude so as to spur one another on for this ongoing marathon called Covid.

I am so glad it is in this family we all get to serve, and we will continue to be encouraged by those words '**Let us not grow weary of doing good**'!

- Viv



Christmas@Maroba

Sadly, due to our outbreak and the requirement of the Public Health Unit to keep everyone safe, the facility remained in lockdown over the Christmas period. Never-the-less, the whole Maroba and Catering Industries Team kicked up a gear to make this difficult and challenging period an extra special one.

In the lead up to Christmas, residents dined in their suburbs in The Junction Café and enjoyed a delicious luncheon with all the Christmas trimmings. It was a very busy time for the hospitality and Catering Industries team who served a 3 course meal to residents 3 days in a row.

Peonies Farm Animals also paid a visit as did Santa and a few 2 legged elves! On Christmas Day residents were upbeat and enjoyed opening all their presents, another scrumptious Christmas luncheon and a visit from Viv. A big thanks to the whole team for all your efforts.



Crochet project

Our residents who have an interest in crocheting have been keeping busy crocheting poppies of late. This is our Anzac Day project, and we hope to have a poppy for every resident and a cascade of poppies for our front verandah. If any family member or friendship group can crochet and would like to contribute to our poppy project, please let us know and we can provide you with a pattern.



Social & Engagement News



Everyone is excited that from 7 February the hairdresser will re-open, as will the gymnasium in a covid safe manner. ie Individuals will attend the areas separately or will go in groups of 1 or 2 from the same suburb groups. Bus trips will re-commence, and residents will leave the facility for trips in their suburbs. Whilst we are not encouraging or arranging large group activities, friends from other suburbs will be able to meet and mix in The Junction Café in small groups. In the coming weeks, our self-care and community members will be welcomed back at Maroba and concerts for residents will resume.

Our arrangements are reviewed and amended in line with Public Health Orders, Community transmission and our own risk assessment.

And from Narnia Pre-School...

The pre-schoolers and teachers are itching to come back and re-commence the Intergenerational program. This program began early last year and was a huge success for the pre-schoolers and residents who met for an activity, lunch and companionship one morning a week for a school term.

The teachers report:

'The children are still talking about their experiences, even though the program was a year ago'

'Drawings that would normally be given to parents are being created for their buddy at Maroba'

'The children are asking when they can come back – they are missing the connection'

We know our residents are also keen for the pre-schoolers to return and as soon as it is safe to do so for everyone we will 'push go' and re-activate the program.



Feedback Corner

We know whilst the facility was not able to admit visitors it was very difficult for residents and families. Overall residents remained positive, as shown here by the comments given in passing to our Spiritual Care team.

There was lots of appreciation for the church services which can take attendees to positive places. Many residents mentioned that they love the hymns. Some even mention that they love hearing the hymns in their rooms, even if they choose not to come to the service!

Several residents have mentioned that while the lockdown is hard, they are thankful to know that they are being kept safe.

Many of the residents are appreciative of the good care they receive; meals made, washing done, a safe place to sleep at night, help at the call of a buzzer. Many of the residents have mentioned that they know we are understaffed and yet commend the work that the staff are doing, and notice & appreciate those who are working double shifts or more shifts than they would normally.

A common refrain heard over the previous weeks is "I can't complain!"

For Suggestions, Compliments, Concerns and Complaints

Help us improve our Care & Services.

'Have your Say' flyer with forms are available at the entrance to The Manor and The Lodge and an e-copy is available on our website under 'Contact Us'.



**58 Edith Street,
Waratah NSW 2298**



www.maroba.com.au
Connecting community online

For news, online enquiries, general information including careers & volunteering.

24 hours
(02) 4935 0300



Reception Hours
Monday to Friday
8.30am - 4.30pm



feedback@maroba.com.au

For Suggestions, Compliments,
Concerns & Complaints

connect@maroba.com.au

For corresponding with residents

enquiries@maroba.com.au

For all general enquiries

marketing@maroba.com.au

For requests to receive newsletters and other general information from Maroba

Follow us on Facebook

