



# TENTERFIELD CARE CENTRE

Haddington & Millrace Newsletter

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## LETTER FROM THE CEO

*Fiona Murphy - TCC CEO*



As 2021 draws to a close and we reflect on the year that has been, I think it's safe to say that none of us expected that the Covid-19 pandemic would continue to have such an impact on our way of life, particularly as Tenterfield has remained relatively unaffected. As an organisation, we have had to rapidly adapt to the challenges facing our everyday operations. Since the pandemic first impacted residential aged care in 2020, our priority at all times has been the safety of our residents, and every decision made has been with their welfare first and foremost. The hardest decision we have had to make is to physically keep residents and families apart during periods of lockdown. That decision was based on Health directives and taken out of our hands altogether with the enactment of Public Health Orders to control the risk to the public.

I am proud of the way in which our Management Team and staff have stood together, and stood firm, on the decisions we have made that have kept our residents safe. We have become more resilient as an organisation and have found new and creative ways to ensure our residents remain active and connected to families, friends, and each other. We are now more aware than ever of the importance of family, our loved ones, and our co-workers, and that we can get through anything together.

I thank you all for your patience, understanding, and support through 2021, and wish you a safe and happy festive season with your loved ones.

# YEAR TO DATE

Whilst 2021 has been a challenging year, Tenterfield Care Centre (TCC) has also seen some outstanding achievements operationally.

Our greatest achievement this year has been the successful application for funding through the 2020 Aged Care Approvals Round. TCC was allocated \$2.5M towards the construction of a 28-bed extension to Haddington Nursing Home. Thank you to the Management Team for the time and effort that went into the application process, and congratulations on a fantastic outcome.

TCC is one of the largest employers in Tenterfield, and our staff remain our most important asset. Two staff members have successfully completed traineeships this year, one in Business Administration, and the other in Leisure and Health, which has greatly benefited the organisation.

TCC is currently sponsoring two staff through a Diploma of Nursing with TAFE NSW and will be assisting more staff to upskill in their chosen field in the coming year. Due to the current shortage of Registered Nurses across the aged care industry, TCC are sponsoring two overseas nurses who will commence early in the New Year.

TCC has also recently employed a marketing officer to ensure the community is kept well informed of our operations in a timely manner.

Due to the number of infrastructure projects scheduled for this year, TCC employed a qualified maintenance manager who has overseen a number of large projects to completion. These include the following:

- Finalisation of Millrace bedroom and ensuite refurbishment;
- Installation of air conditioning throughout both Millrace and Haddington;
- The replacement of the diesel boilers at Millrace with gas boilers;

The installation of automatic doors at both facilities for increased resident/staff security.

Construction of Stage 3 of Haddington Nursing Home is set to commence early in 2022, and the refurbishment of Millrace communal areas will continue.

Despite lockdowns and visiting restrictions, and in the absence of volunteers, our activities staff have continued to provide a wide range of activities throughout the year to ensure that our residents remain socially connected. Along with a range of art, craft, concerts, ensuring resident safety at all times. 2022 looks set to be just as challenging, however, TCC remain committed to providing quality care for our residents in Haddington and Millrace.

*Construction of Stage 3 of Haddington Nursing Home is set to commence early in 2022*



# TCC ACTIVITY REPORT:

JUNE – DECEMBER 2021

The COVID situation has made life very challenging for residents and staff. We have soldiered on and found ways to keep our residents active, involved, and busy. We have been making the most of our warming weather to encourage the residents to sit outside in the fresh air, to view our lovely gardens, and to take those necessary daily walks. When possible, residents in princess chairs have been taken into North Wing Garden, so that they too can experience the garden, the sunshine, and fresh air. Our popular annual event "Italian Day" was held in June. Residents and staff enjoyed Italian cuisine,



Trivia & Music throughout the day. The lead up to the day gave the residents the opportunity to decorate the tables & facility through Craft activities - to help create the perfect atmosphere. In June Residents were able to attend the local cinema along with fellow Millrace residents to watch the Australian film "June Again". This was a humorous but thought-provoking film appreciated by those who attended.

In July at the School of Arts Cinema, our residents were also given the opportunity to view the acclaimed and locally produced "Reenactment of the first Mail Plane to Tenterfield".

Even through numbers were restricted due to COVID, our residents were still able to enjoy a Live Better Bus trip to Greg Butler's old home site on Bellevue Rd, a visit to Mt Mackenzie via Kildare Rd, and a trip to Deepwater, the Deepwater Bakery, and most recently lunch at the Tenterfield Bowling Club.

The Alpaca Farm in Wallangarra, owned by the son & daughter-in-law of one of our residents, was a huge success in June. Taking two groups in our small TCC Bus, one for morning tea and one for afternoon tea, enabled all residents who wanted to go the opportunity to participate. Cont...

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The Alpaca Farm in Wallangarra, owned by the son & daughter-in-law of one of our residents, was a huge success in June. Taking two groups in our small TCC Bus, one for morning tea and one for afternoon tea, enabled all residents who wanted to go the opportunity to participate. The end of July saw the Residents & Staff Talent Show being held, showcasing the hidden talents amongst Tenterfield Care Centre's staff and residents, with Millrace residents and staff attending and partaking. The Haddington residents enjoyed creating decorations to set the stage, and a Judge's Panel was obtained from residents of both facilities. We were entertained by individual singers, a choir, poem recitals, and instrumentals by both residents & staff. After the show a delicious BBQ lunch from both Haddington and Millrace kitchens, was enjoyed with all the trimmings. A big thank you to Pat Haddock who attended to provide "back-up music" for some of our performers. Our staff member Josephina Martinez won the Judge's approval with the highest score becoming our most accomplished performer of the day. A "Spring Fling" was held at the end of September to welcome in the new season. Aleah, one of our Activity Staff, set up a photo "studio" and took lovely photos of each of our residents that will be given to their families for Xmas. The residents enjoyed dressing up, being pampered, entertained, and then afterwards dined on a sumptuous lunch and bubbles from the kitchen.

November saw the "Nation stop" including Haddington, for the running of the Melbourne Cup. Once again residents and staff enjoyed dressing up, being wined, and dined, entertained by very talented singers in Warren Butler and Josie Martinez, and of course, dabbling in a few sweeps. A Garden Group has been established and has hit the ground running, providing an opportunity for the residents to get their hands wet and dirty. Residents have been busy harvesting herbs from the North wing garden beds, and growing vegetable in our new raised garden beds in the middle courtyard, just in time for the summer months.

Another popular weekly event- Cooking, continues to attract many cooks. cont...



*On behalf of the TCC Activity Staff we wish you all a Happy Christmas and a much better and brighter New Year, and we remind families that Facetime is always available if you are unable to visit.*

Some of the recipes created over the last couple of months were herbed damper using our own freshly grown herbs, Mini pizzas, Quiches, Orange & Cranberry muffins, Parfaits, and butter biscuits.

With lockdown restrictions lifting Residents are once again being entertained by Pat Haddock playing the piano, Rosemary Boyle, and Inez Butler with Audrey, all singing songs that bring back so many memories of days gone by for our residents. We take this opportunity to thank these wonderful ladies once again, for their commitment to TCC. Haddington's raffle for Trudy Curry's donated Quilt, was drawn Friday 29th October and won by Kathy Lynch. Second prize went to Helen Baily, and third prize to Andrea Rutley. A profit of \$550 was reached, and we are very grateful for everyone who sold and bought tickets in this challenging Covid time.

A big thank you to our local Pharmacy who donated a box of make-up & nail polishes. This enables us to have hand massage & nail painting pampering sessions, which our residents love and enjoy.

Our Millrace residents have had a wonderful year of activities in spite of Covid as well. We got Manfred & Elizabeth to create this masterpiece train set for Millrace. It was amazing.

Melbourne Cup- we enjoyed sweeps, quiz, games, Calcutta and yabby races. The residents have also enjoyed some pet therapy. We also had a bus trip to Tenterfield Station with morning tea then Mrs. Dean gave us a tour of the station. We celebrated Seniors week in Tenterfield April 2021. Visits to the Tenterfield Mens Shed and morning tea at the school of arts, Autumn Festival in Tenterfield where Eileen Bailey won the colouring competition.

December will be our month to celebrate the Festive Season and we encourage families to spend time with their resident. Even though Aged Care facilities will not be open for public gatherings such as our Christmas Party on the 8th of December, you are still welcome to visit if you are fully vaccinated, and of course we will ensure all residents are given the opportunity to enjoy and experience the delights of the Season. One of the highlights is always the bus trips around town to see the Xmas lights.





FROM ALL OF US HERE AT  
TENTERFIELD CARE CENTRE.

*Thank you for supporting us.  
Merry Christmas  
and have a happy New Year.*

**PLEASE NOTE : Due to the current COVID-19 situation in NSW,  
the guidelines for visiting may change quickly and often.  
We will send updates as they are available, however,  
please refer to the Department of Health website for current information.**



**TENTERFIELD**  
CARE CENTRE

[www.tenterfieldcarecentre.org.au](http://www.tenterfieldcarecentre.org.au)