



Strathdon *Link*

Uniting Aged Care - Strathdon Community **newsletter**

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Linda Dover

Introducing Linda Dover

Strathdon Community welcomes Linda Dover, who commenced as Site Manager of Residential Services on 6th July 2009.

Linda previously worked at Strathdon in the early 1990's and since that time developed her expertise in healthcare management.

She has come from an organisational role at Southern Cross Care Vic where she co-ordinated service delivery and quality across nine residential facilities.

Prior to working at Southern Cross Linda was the Quality Manager for Aged Care and Rehabilitation of Eastern Health where she had contact with Strathdon's Transition Care staff.

Linda experienced the recent accreditation process at Strathdon Community and has been delighted to meet many of the residents, relatives, volunteers and staff.

She looks forward to an exciting year and we welcome her on board.

Vale

Gordon Munro

Gordon Munro, a valued resident of Strathdon Community, sadly passed away on the 8th May 2009, aged 86.

His last days were spent at Knox Private Hospital, where his strong support for the Anzacs and personal story inspired staff to initiate an Anzac service within the Ferndale Ward.

Born in 1922, Gordon's career with the army began in 1942 when he began work at the Army Reception Depot at the Caulfield Racecourse. His sleeping arrangements at that time were, as described by Gordon, "the top back row of the Grand Stand."

At his request, he was transferred to the infantry, and after training in Bendigo, was moved "up north" as an infantry reinforcement to the transit camp at Charters Towers in Queensland. During this time, the town was a training centre for US pilots flying Boston and Marauder medium bombers and was very noisy.

Due to Gordon's clerical experience, he was transferred to 1st Advanced 2nd Echelon at Port Moresby.

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Accreditation awarded

July was an extremely busy month for East Region as some of our sites and programs underwent accreditation through The Aged Care Standards & Accreditation Agency.

The two residential services were Strathdon, number 20 in twelve months for UACVT and Trewint, number 21.

I am pleased to announce that Strathdon successfully achieved the 44 outcomes.

Furthermore Strathdon Community and Community Respite also underwent the Community Quality Audit by the Department of Health and Ageing. It should come as no surprise that they, also, were successful. None of this could be achieved without the collective effort of each team. I sincerely thank all our staff for their greatly appreciated commitment. Well done!

Carol Fountain
Regional Manager, East Victoria.



Gordon Munro, far right, with patients and staff at Knox Private Hospital

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After returning to Melbourne, he was appointed a position in Army Records in the Bourke Street Myer building. It was here that Gordon met his wife, Olive, who had been recruited into the Australian Women's Army Service (AWAS).

It was not long after they had announced their engagement, that Gordon was summoned by the Commanding Officer to advise him that he would be going overseas very shortly. When Gordon informed him of their engagement, the Colonel simply stated they should get married before leaving, which they did.

Gordon and Olive were married in Melbourne, with the Colonel attending as one of their guests.

After a week's honeymoon in Healesville, Gordon travelled on a troop train to Sydney, and then on an aircraft carrier to Townsville where they soon learned they were on their way to Singapore.

The plane flight to Singapore via Labuan Island was not without hiccups. "After four unsuccessful attempts to take off, we eventually became

air-borne. This was due to the craft loaded to maximum with bully beef and medical supplies... During the flight, each took turns to lie in the nose of the aircraft to maintain balance".

Upon landing, and rowing themselves to shore, Gordon was taken to Changi Gaol and installed in one of the Wardens barracks where their task was to determine who was present, and if the fate of any Australian soldiers was known.

Gordon's first task was to visit the Australian prisoners at the goal. "Some of them were in a pretty sad state. Most of them could not contain themselves to see Australians from home amongst them. I passed three Australian Pound notes for them to look at - I don't know how many felt the notes and flicked them, but they all came back to me."

It took nearly four months for the task to be completed, before Gordon travelled home on the English troop ship "Cheshire".

Upon arrival in Melbourne he returned to army life again, until discharged in April 1946.

Gordon was a resident at Strathdon



Gordon Munro

Community for over 18 months. Olive, who was also a resident, passed away in late 2007.

During his time at Strathdon, Gordon developed a lot of friendships with other residents, volunteers and staff. He served on the Residents' Committee and was an active member of the Probus Club of Forest Hill Strathdon.

On the 30th August 2006 the **Strathdon Community Perpetual Trust** was established with Gordon as one of the founding donors. His legacy will continue through the commitment of donors and his family supporting the trust.

His smiling face and genuine interest in others will always be remembered.



In Sympathy

The Strathdon Foothills Auxiliary regrets the passing of long time member and friend, Mrs Phyllis Hildebrand on the 22nd July 2009.

Our deepest sympathy to her family.

Donations in Kind

Donations In Kind (DIK) is the program whereby Rotary International, a worldwide community service organisation, sources unwanted goods within Australia and sends them to other countries where they can be of use.

The Rotary Club of Forest Hill collects unwanted spectacles which it sends to needy countries where the spectacles are provided free of cost to people with defective sight in order to give them the opportunity to see clearly again. Forest Hill has collected over 10,000 pairs of spectacles during the last 10 years, and raises the funds needed to pay for the freighting of them.

Currently, the spectacles are going to people in Vanuatu who otherwise could not afford or would not have access to the spectacles they need to improve their sight.

Through Rotary contacts in Vanuatu, the sight of the recipients is tested and an appropriate set of spectacles is provided.

If you or your family and friends have unwanted spectacles, please place them in the box provided outside the Kiosk and they will be collected by the Rotary Club of Forest Hill and forwarded to the people who need them.

Two boxes have already been filled, but more spectacles are needed.

Thank-you for your assistance with this wonderful project.

Rotary Club of Forest Hill

Calling volunteers: Green thumbs wanted!



The 'Wednesday Weeders' require volunteers to assist with weeding, light pruning and garden maintenance.

The group meets every 4th Wednesday morning of the month, and lunch is provided.

For further details, please contact Bev Brown, ph: 9878 9954.

Going Green Appeal brings big savings

Yarra Valley has awarded Strathdon with a certificate for implementing a WaterMap Action Plan which has reduced over 10% of the total water usage from Nov 2007 to Feb 2009.

In addition, over \$5,000 was saved on chemicals alone last year due to the implementation of the Ozone Laundry System.

Over the past year and a half, a number of initiatives have been

implemented, including:

- installation of water tanks at Forest Hill and Yernga Retirement Village;
- replacement of all single flush toilets to dual flush toilets in the Day Therapy Centre and Independent Living Units;
- notices in all toilet and wash areas;
- installation of motion sensors in bathrooms and storerooms.

Donations to the Going Green Appeal can be made online at www.strathdon.org.au or by phone: **9845 3105 / 9845 3104**.

Primary Talents on Show

Primary school students from a record eight schools participated in the 6th Annual Children's Art Competition and Show.

The walls were brought to life with colourful drawings, paintings and other art mediums for one day on Friday 7th August.

Generous sponsorship for the fundraiser was once again provided by Sir Arvi Parbo, and prizes were awarded to each school in two categories, Prep-Year 4, and Years 5/6. The participating schools were Burwood Heights, Camelot Rise, Livingstone, Orchard Grove, Parkmore, St Timothy's Catholic, Vermont and Weeden Heights.

Vermont Primary School was awarded the major prize. The creativity of their arts program was demonstrated by the winning Year 4 student, Leah's creative puppet character constructed with paper and textiles.

Creativity, colour, as well as the fun and innocence of childhood were the main factors taken into consideration by the guest judge, Al Degroot.

"It was a real pleasure to be involved in a show like this", she said.

Strathdon thanks the teachers and students who were involved and we look forward to next year's show!



Overall Winner: Leah from Year 4 at Vermont Primary School and her puppet "Battle Time".



Camelot Rise winner: Liam from Prep and his drawing (above) "The Red Car".



Parkmore Primary School winner: Matthew from Year 4 and his drawing, "Profile Portrait" using white pencil on black paper.



Guest judge & professional artist, Al Degroot.

New Internet site for UACVT

A new website for Uniting Aged Care Victoria & Tasmania was launched on the 1st July 2009. The aim of the new internet site is to provide innovative and relevant information including updated profiles for all UACVT services and their locations.

Strathdon Community's website, www.strathdon.org.au is currently under review. Once updating is complete, it will be redirected to the www.uacvt.org.au website.

Online giving to Uniting Aged Care can be facilitated through the new internet site.

Simply visit www.uacvt.org.au and click on the **Donations Direction Form** from the menu. You can then specify where you would like your donation to be directed.

Upcoming Events

Cruden Farm Family Day featuring the Victoria Police Showband.

Cranhaven Road, Langwarrin
Melway Ref: 103 F6

**Sat 5 December 2009
10 am to 4 pm**

Please join us for day of music, food and wine in the magnificent gardens of Dame Elizabeth Murdoch AC, DBE. BYO picnic baskets, rugs and chairs.

Admission: \$15 per adult
Children under 15 free.

Gourmet BBQ, wine & beverages available for purchase.

Net proceeds to Strathdon Community.

CRUDEN FARM FAMILY DAY EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT TICKETS

**\$12 per adult - non-refundable
Available now until 13th November!**

Phone: 9845 3104/ 9845 3105
Email: emily.muir@uacvt.org.au



City of Whitehorse Spring Festival

Whitehorse Council Centre
Whitehorse Road, Forest Hill
**18 October 2009
10am to 4 pm**

Uniting Aged Care East Region Victoria will be represented.

Pancake Day

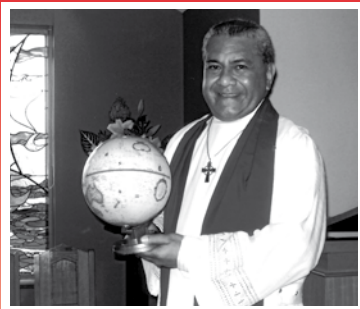
Strathdon Community Centre
**Tues 16 February 2010
10 am to 1 pm**

Presentation Day

Strathdon Community Centre
Tues 2 March 2010

7th Annual Art Exhibition

Strathdon Community Centre
16 to 18 April 2010



Rev Jason Kioa

Combined Celebration Service

A combined service was held in June at Strathdon Community for the Canterbury Road Community of Congregations, which includes Parkmore/Strathdon, Vermont and Forest Hill Uniting Church.

Rev Jason Kioa, Moderator of the Uniting Church Victoria & Tasmania was invited to celebrate the annual anniversary of the formation of the Uniting Church.

Congratulations to Rev Deacon Steve Crump

The Presbytery of Yarra Yarra formally inducted Rev Deacon Steve Crump as Chaplain to the Strathdon Community and Minister to the Parkmore/Strathdon Congregation on 26th July.

Many of the Strathdon residents attended to offer their congratulations.

Acknowledgements

Thank-you to Rosalie Franzke for the donation of 20 coverall aprons to the Foothills Auxillary for use in the kiosk.

Strathdon Community thanks all donors and contributors.

Uniting Aged Care Victoria and Tasmania is the largest not-for-profit provider of quality aged care services in Victoria and Tasmania. We are an organisation of the Uniting Church in Australia, continuing the Church's long history of providing care to older people. We are also a part of the Uniting Church's national UnitingCare network.

Regional Manager East Victoria: Ms Carol Fountain

Reception/Admissions

17 Jolimont Rd, Forest Hill 3131 8.30am-4.30pm Mon-Fri
Phone: 9877 5144 Fax: 9894 3489

Residential Services

Nursing Home and Transition Care: 9 Jolimont Rd, Forest Hill
Hostels: 15 & 17-23 Jolimont Rd, Forest Hill
Independent Living Units:
10 Cherryl St, Forest Hill | 1 Quentin St, Forest Hill
Yernga 32-42 Larch Cres, Mt Waverley

Community Services

Community Care Packages, Day Therapy Centre & Mingara Day Activity Centre: 9 Jolimont Rd, Forest Hill

Email: strathdon.info@uacvt.org.au
www.strathdon.org.au www.uacvt.org.au

Do you wish to save paper?

You can now receive the Strathdon Link newsletter via email. Please email emily.muir@uacvt.org.au to update your mailing options.