



*welcome*

Welcome to our Spring Newsletter. How lovely to see the first signs of Spring. It feels to have been a long winter. We are pleased to see the illnesses of winter start to fade as we move to the warmer season. This is the first time we are also seeing a sustained reduction in COVID cases and we are starting to return to our new normal.

**Maria Davison**  
CEO

As of 1st September, our staff will not wear masks except for personal care and transport. Although we feel the challenges are passing, I do want to acknowledge the significant inconvenience to some clients. The number of staff isolating due to illness was significant and you may have had different team members visit and in some cases, our need to reallocate, or cancel a visit. This was our last option, but we do know that it impacted you and for that I am truly sorry. During this time, we also made the difficult decision to stop accepting new clients so we could be best positioned to meet our client visits. At a time when the need for service has been high and the phone calls continue, it has been very difficult. We trust that any inconvenience to you is decreasing as our team members return to us.

With the better weather comes the opportunity to consider getting out and about. Some team members recently came together with our friends at Rural Health West to knit bonnets for premature babies. Thank goodness for those that are so skilled, as mine didn't make the grade! Sometimes we underestimate how necessary it is for our health and wellbeing to be joyfully together. We all know how good it can feel to come together with friends and research shows the many health benefits. So, with all that in mind, check the Events tab on our website and see what's happening at our Friendship Club and also what's on offer at LeisureFit.

**[www.melvillecity.com.au/things-to-do/leisurefit-recreation-centres/what-s-on-at-leisurefit](http://www.melvillecity.com.au/things-to-do/leisurefit-recreation-centres/what-s-on-at-leisurefit)**

We will return to holding our regular information sessions to which you are always welcome. Our recent Dementia Update was particularly well attended, so we will be looking at holding another. Please let me know of any topics that would be of interest. We will let you know when these will be held, or you can see our website **[www.melvillecares.org.au](http://www.melvillecares.org.au)**

As always, I would love to hear from you with any suggestions for this newsletter, or any other feedback. I hope to speak with you over afternoon tea as shared later in this newsletter.



## Office Renovation

Renovations at June Barton House are now complete! Generously undertaken by the City of Melville as the building owner, renovations involved a new reception desk, new lighting throughout the office and a renovated kitchen. Modernisation of the office environment has also been accompanied by a program to update office furniture and equipment over the past 18 months, which has resulted in the majority of our team members now having sit-stand desks, ergonomic chairs and other equipment, to ensure that all of our staff can work in a safe environment and minimise workplace injury.



### Public Holiday Reminder

Domestic assistance, transport and social support services are not provided on Public Holidays. Please speak with your Coordinator if you have any concerns.



### Emergency on call

We provide emergency phone support for our team members and clients during the hours that services are being provided outside of office hours, 6.30am -8.30am, in the evening from 4.30pm 8.00pm, and on weekends between 6.30am and 8.00pm.

This is to support our team and for clients to advise us if the scheduled service needs to be changed, or cancelled. All other calls are taken during business hours when our team can best respond.

## Age Friendly Melville Assistance Fund

This assistance fund set up by the City of Melville offers funding depending on eligibility, up to a maximum of \$300 per person, per financial year, to support a choice of short term or one-off support services to eligible older people living independently in the community, or in residential care within the City of Melville. Further details are available from the City of Melville, 9364 0666 and on our website.



City of  
**Melville**

## National Carers Week 16 – 22 October 2022

Melville Cares has been fortunate to have received a grant to celebrate National Carers Week. Watch this space for more details of an exciting event to celebrate carers.



## Introducing Monthly Afternoon Tea with our CEO, Maria



As June Barton House begins to open up to the community in September, we would love to hear from you about what you think Melville Cares does well, and where you think we could improve. Starting at the end of September, we will be holding a monthly small group afternoon tea session with our CEO. If you would like to join Maria and chat over a cuppa, please contact the office to express your interest.

**Donate your containers to  
Melville Cares and we'll receive  
10c for each one.**

**With your help, we can make a  
change.**

(Scheme ID: C10602134)

