



# Darlingford Newsletter

## March 2021



Autumn is here...With the beautiful colour of the leaves, changing day by day.



Truly a lovely time of year!

## ACCREDITATION

The Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission visited Darlingford between January 20th-22nd, 2021 for our full 3 Year Accreditation Audit. We are fortunate to have such a great team, who has done a wonderful job over the last couple of years, working towards compliance with the new Aged Care and Quality Standards.

To say the least it has been a challenging time with the introduction of the new Standards, the Aged Care Royal Commission, Covid-19 etc, however, I am very pleased to announce that the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission have granted Darlingford Accreditation for another 3 years.

There were some recommendations from the final report, advising that residents be able to move more freely indoors and outdoors. It was always our plan and intentions to install automatic doors when funds are available, however the Board of Management have agreed to install an automatic door mechanism immediately, to comply with these recommendations.

The first automatic door will be in operation on 31st March, with plans for further door installations in the future.

To ensure quality improvement, we have been busy applying for many government grants to upgrade our amenities, including equipment such as new wheelchairs, pressure care mattresses, a bladder scanner, syringe drivers, external blinds, new flooring throughout, princess chairs, high back chairs, replacement kitchen items such as dishwashers and oven, bigger king single beds, the wish list is endless.

Strategic planning includes reviewing of the perimeter fencing and gates, to extend our south garden to meet up with the central garden, which would provide another lovely circuit walk.

There is a huge amount of work required to apply for these funds, under 4 different funding streams. I would like to say a big thank you to Sandy Keath who has been assisting with preparing these applications. If we are successful with any, or part of these applications, it is due to her voluntary contribution to Darlingford.

Judy Brookes—CEO

## Important Visiting Information...



It is so great to be able to welcome families and friends back to visit their loved ones at Darlingford.

We do ask all visitors to please continue to make bookings prior to arrival. Appointments not only assist us to streamline our entry process, but to ensure correct infection control measures are maintained.

It is preferred that bookings are made, especially for weekend visits to enable Care Staff to greet all visitors on arrival.

*We thank you for your assistance—please share this with your family*

## Fun Activities at Darlingford.....

### St Patricks Day !



A great day was had by residents and staff celebrating this fun day for the Irish 'St Patrick's Day.

The facility turned green with lots of decorations and great to see so many residents donned the bright green hats.

Residents also enjoyed some very special games and fun activities

Throw the Leprechaun brought a lot of laughs and always a big favourite St. Patricks Day Bingo.

There were a few very lucky winners from the pot of gold today!



### Car Tiki Tours with Jeanne...



A lovely morning drive taking in some special sights was just the thing to brighten the day for a few of our residents.

These fun "Tiki Tours" with Jeanne are thoroughly enjoyed by all!

And a big thanks to Larry for taking residents out on a bus tour last week. It was just a drive around our beautiful shire, and we are planning some dining outings in the near future.

## Covid-19 Vaccination Update.....

You may have been contacted recently by Sandra, who is our Infection Control Representative at Darlingford. Sandra has been speaking with residents and families, and obtaining consent to receive the Covid-19 vaccine or discuss any concerns.

CEO Judy Brookes is working closely with GV Health in Shepparton, to arrange a date for an in-reach team to come to Darlingford, to vaccinate residents. It is hoped this will be achieved before April 22nd, 2021.

**Although vaccines are not mandatory, the government strongly encourages everyone to get vaccinated.**

Staff and all visitors must continue to wear masks at all times. This has been draining on our staff, particularly over the summer period, and this will continue until the government feels there has been sufficient vaccinations within the community.

As we have been reminded this week with a few cases in Brisbane, it is so easy for the virus to travel and can appear anywhere, at any time—even at an AFL game. Therefore we have to remember to continue our hand hygiene and social distancing at all times, not just when there is a threat. This will also help keep the dreaded flu virus at bay.



### Smoking ...

**A Friendly Reminder -**



Darlingford is a

**'No Smoking Facility.'**

Please refrain from smoking on the grounds of Darlingford.

The designated smoking area is for Residents only

### Keep up to date via emails...



In this every changing environment, we endeavour to keep you up to date as soon as possible. It is quick and convenient to be able to send emails. This applies to any member of your family. So if you or a family member would like to receive messages or our monthly via email, please contact reception, or email us so we can add you to the contact list.

**Please send details to: [darlingford@dughn.com.au](mailto:darlingford@dughn.com.au)**