



## From the C.E.O. - Mark Zentgraf



Welcome to the autumn addition of the Samarinda Newsletter. It has been some time since our last Newsletter and a lot of things have changed since then. You might notice Samarinda now has some new branding, we have completed the building of our 92 bed residential facility and in January 2019 we had filled 90 of our residential beds. In addition, Samarinda now also provides aged home care services through our Home Care Package program as well as supports for persons with a Disability through our NDIS program.

Samarinda is also preparing for the accreditation of our residential service. We have recently submitted our desktop review and await the unannounced audit by the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission. If any of our residents or their families wish to talk to the accreditors prior to the audit they can contact them on 1800 951 822.

Finally, over the next few months we expect that the senior citizens building at 296 High Street will be demolished and a new purpose built centre constructed in its place. The current services run through this building will be redistributed to other areas close to Samarinda so that we maintain continuity of service to our community.

I hope you enjoy our autumn newsletter.

## New specially equipped bus for Samarinda community



Samarinda Ashburton Aged Services recently took delivery of a new specially equipped bus which will enable residents with wheelchairs to enjoy outings together with their ambulant co-residents.

The bus was very generously paid for by a donation from Ashburton Community Bank® branch of Bendigo Bank, with whom Samarinda has had a long and valued relationship.

The bus, which can carry up to 10 people, features (in addition to regular seating) facilities for two people in wheelchairs to be transported in safety. "This bus will be a real benefit for our residents who use wheelchairs", said Lifestyle Program Coordinator Michelle Lewin. "Until now we have been limited in our ability to take them on outings and they are very excited at the prospect."

Above from left: Kathy Koulouris - Manager, Ashburton Community Bank Branch; Jeff Armstrong - Finance Manager, Samarinda; Bob Stensholt - Chair, Samarinda Committee of Management; Juliann Byron - Chair, Ashburton Community Bank Branch and Brian Bergin - Member, Samarinda Committee of Management.



Above: Samarinda resident, Bryan Reed enjoying the lift, with Bob Stensholt and Juliann Byron looking on.

Below: Residents enjoying an outing to Geelong in one of the first trips for the new bus.



## *Music therapist joins the Samarinda team*

Residents can now get their singing voices ready to join the fun with our new Music Therapist Loretta, every second Friday morning. Residents enjoy singing along to old time songs and a bit of rock'n'roll. Then they get the instruments out and try to bring the roof down.

Dr Loretta Quinn is a Registered Music Therapist and a Registered Nurse Div1. Having an Italian background, Loretta is able to entertain our Italian residents by also singing in Italian.



Music Therapist Loretta Quinn (left) with residents Tony Helm and Bev Strapp enjoying a sing along.



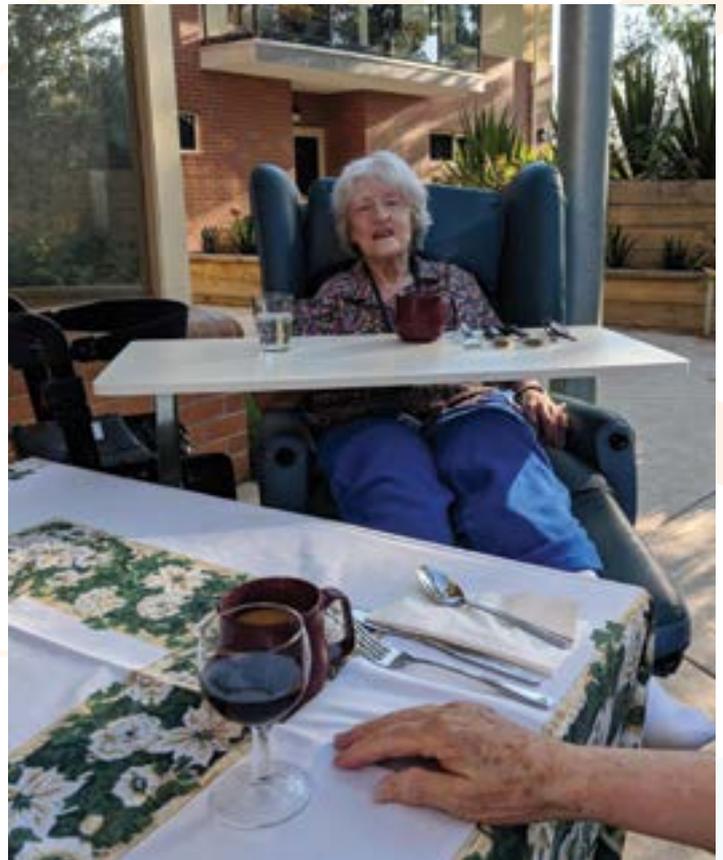
Samarinda resident Ken Painter keeping the beat.

## *Outdoor dinners a hit with residents*

Residents have been making the most of our hot summer nights by having dinner outside. Everyone has enjoyed the atmosphere and conversation. On many occasions the diners have been serenaded by Lorikeets and Magpies as they settle in for the night.



Enjoying dinner 'al fresco', from left: John Nicholson, Ian Duncan, Barbara Bannister, John Bannister and Lillian Allen.



## Op Shop update

"The Ashy" Op Shop is currently transitioning its stock from summer to winter range.

Sales this year to date are good but not great with general retail climate challenges.

Donation of your unwanted goods is always welcome.

*What can I donate?*

Our Op Shop accepts quality clothing, accessories, books and bric-a-brac, homewares and furniture. If it's good enough quality to give to a friend, then it's something we'd love. They are also happy to take garden equipment such as plants, pots, garden tools and garden ornaments.

*It's easy to donate.*

Simply drop your pre-loved donations at our op shop or in the donation bins.

**If an item is breakable or fragile, please wrap before donating.**

If you want to donate some quality items that are too big to drop off, please call us to arrange for our free collection service.

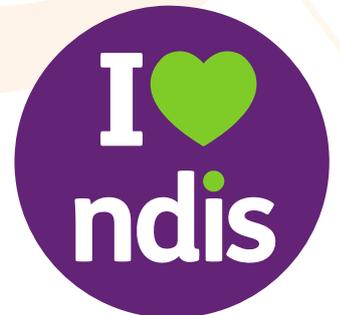
## Samarinda receives additional NDIS approval

Samarinda Ashburton Aged Services is pleased to announce that it has now received both Federal and State certification to be an approved NDIS provider. This is an exciting moment in the ongoing development of Samarinda and means that we are now able to provide even greater services to our local community.

For anyone in the Ashburton and surrounds who has a disability and is looking for a local provider, please call us on 1300 591 464 or email us on [intake@saas.org.au](mailto:intake@saas.org.au)

Samarinda is currently approved for the following services:

- Accommodation/Tenancy
- Assist-Personal Activities
- Assist-Personal Activities High
- Assist-Life Stage, Transition
- Assist-Travel/Transport
- Behaviour Support
- Community Nursing Care
- Daily Tasks/Shared Living
- Development-Life Skills
- Group/Centre Activities
- Household Tasks
- Participate Community
- Plan Management
- Support Coordination
- Therapeutic Supports



## Ashburton Community Festival

Samarinda was happy to be involved in the annual Ashburton Community Festival held in late February. A group of staff and volunteers led by Lourdes Catalla, Samarinda's Meals On Wheel Program Coordinator, set up a very successful street café serving delicious Devonshire Teas outside 'The Ashy' Op Shop, which also appeared to be conducting a very brisk trade.

The sun shone, the people came and a good time was had by all.

Thank you to all the staff and volunteers involved in the planning, bump-in and bump-out on the day.



Activity at the Devonshire Tea stand.



Volunteer Jenny Yarwood (left), with Brian Bergin (centre) and Lourdes Catalla

## *Community Centre redevelopment*

Hundreds of people enjoy activities at the Community Centre every week, through a range of diverse programs and interest groups and events.

However, the building is more than 50 years old and is no longer able to meet the growing and changing needs of seniors in the local and surrounding community, or deliver all of the activities and services that are needed.

The current layout does not allow for flexible activity spaces and the lower level is unsuitable for seniors' activities.

Boroondara City Council have designed and are building a brand new Centre with the aim of creating a space that is easily accessible, and better suited to deliver the activities and services the seniors in our community need.

The new age-friendly centre will be a contemporary and accessible facility that will provide opportunities for senior residents to form social connections and participate in life-long learning, both of which can have tremendously positive effects on an individual's overall health and wellbeing.

The building tender will be signed by Council in late April and we are preparing to vacate soon after that. Demolition works are anticipated to commence in May and construction works will take at least 12 months to complete.

A portable building will be erected on the Ashburton Bowls Club carpark (off Samarinda Ave), which will provide a hall for most of our client and hall hirer activities; a small kitchenette for morning and afternoon teas; and office accommodation for staff.

Ashburton Bowls Club have kindly agreed to let Samarinda use their kitchen facilities for our Delivered Meals Program.

Although not without its logistical challenges, this is an exciting development for Samarinda and our clients and we look forward to enjoying the new facility over the years to come.



**SAMARINDA**  
locals for locals

*286 High Street, Ashburton*

*Tel: 1300 591 464*

*[www.samarinda.org.au](http://www.samarinda.org.au)*