



## MEET THE STAFF

**NAME:**

Patty Hamilton (Support Services)

**BORN:**

San Taigo Chile – August - not saying what year!

**YEARS WITH DIGGERS:**

Almost 10 years

**FAMILY:**

5 Children, 9 Grand Children

**FAVOURITE FOOD/RESTAURANT:**

Samaras (Lebanese) in Wollongong

**FAVOURITE ALL TIME MOVIE:**

Gone With the Wind

**FAVOURITE TV PROGRAM:**

**BEST PLACE VISITED:**

North Chile – Araca – volcano area

**HOBBIES**

Busy enough with family

**MOST HUMILIATING MOMENT**

In hurry to go to toilet at Pizza Hut in Wollongong – ran into cubicle and then heard men’s voices. Whoops! Wrong one. Had to stay very, very quiet till coast was clear.

**General News Continued...**

This is the cold/flu season so remember please be considerate, if you are not feeling well we encourage rest and not mixing with others on bus trips/activities to keep any illnesses to a minimum.

Fathers Day is fast approaching, the raffle is out tickets are on sale from Admin or Lifestyle staff.

Diggers will be holding a special Fathers day afternoon tea on Saturday 6th September for residents and their families, numbers are to be confirmed by Monday the 25th August to assist with catering for this event.

Welcome to new residents. May you find comfort and friendship in your new home.

Don't forget to collect an activity program to find out what is on during the month.

*Quote: Don't walk in front of me I may not follow.  
Don't walk behind me I may not lead.  
Just walk beside me and be my friend.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS...

**Saturday 6 September**

**Father's Day Afternoon Tea**

2.30pm to 3.30pm in Main dining room

**Tuesday 4 November**

**Melbourne Cup Day**

Recreation Room

Sweeps on sale in the morning and after lunch come along to celebrate with in the fun, beverages, lucky door prize and view the big race

**Tuesday 11 November**

**Remembrance Day**

Recreation Room

Illawarra Diggers service

11am. All welcome

Front Page: Lifestyle staff member Debra Walker with resident Graham Nichols.



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# AUGUST NEWSLETTER 2014



### CEO'S MESSAGE

Good grief! It's August already and spring is almost here.

Whilst many days have been beautiful during the winter the nights have certainly been cold.

Our first international promote Aged Care Day on June 20th was a great success and I am sure all of you who participated

would have thoroughly enjoyed the day. We made history in participating as it was the first of its kind internationally with organisations across the globe participating.

The success of the day though was due to so many people – the volunteer musicians who just thoroughly entertained us with so much music that has enriched our souls over the years.

Whilst country may not be everyone's favourite genre it is music of the soul and life experiences and many, many people can enjoy it. A very big public thank you to musicians and singers Ken Harris, Trevor Tomlinson, Ron Embleton and Roy Keenan and particularly to Ray and Lois Phelan who organised it all to ensure the entertainment was enjoyed by all.

Thanks also to Greg North, three time Australian Champion Bush poet.

To staff who ensured everything went off well a very, very sincere thank you. Lois, Michelle, Paul, Denise, Debbie, Hannah for their organisation, Kevin for the fabulous farmyard demonstration and all the support and care staff for participating and getting into the mood of the day ensuring that residents were able to maximise their involvement .

You all are a great team.

We have lodged with Council a Development Application for approval of a major extension which we hope to be in a position to begin construction on late this year or very early next year. Our aim in undertaking this is to ensure that all rooms will have their own ensuites and that there is an improvement in the facilities for residents including a new hairdressing/barber salon.

It will be a busy and sometimes disruptive two years during the project but with an excellent outcome for residents.

As you are aware aged care is undergoing a significant reform and this is presenting us with some challenges as we work through the implementation of Government Policy which is designed to ensure that all residents admitted after July 1 will, if they are able be forced to pay more for their aged care services.

It is important that residents understand that any additional means tested fee they are assessed as being able to pay does not mean additional income for Diggers, it simply means Government pays less and the resident pays more of the same amount that Diggers' can receive for residents. There are other changes that are progressively being implemented by Government and we will need to address those changes over time.

We are also looking to provide access to a number of staff to undertake higher qualifications in aged care to ensure staff continue to improve their skills and provide quality care to residents.

In the meantime we are constantly looking for ways that we can improve the manner in which we do things for residents. Remember your comments, and suggestions are always welcome.

Rex Leighton  
Chief Executive Officer

### GENERAL NEWS

Hi everyone,

Here we are already over half of the year how time flies.

There have been lots of activities since our last Newsletter.

The Diggers Biggest morning tea for Cancer Council raised \$205 thanks to all who made donations to this worthy cause. Residents have enjoyed a variety of activities and bus trips.

Diggers held a Country day for National open day for aged care, what a wonderful time had by those who attended, enjoying Entertainment-by Ray Phelan and his band who certainly got the party going in full swing with many carving up the dance floor ,Dance troop-staff Deb, Hannah, Maree and Barbara with their boot scooting horse and cow moves, Poetry/Humor , refreshments, BBQ, great display by Kevin and wife Phyllis for bringing in their farm wares/memorabilia and setting the scene with their chooks and beautiful Border Collie who enjoyed the pats and attention. Thanks to those who assisted with all the set up and organizing behind the scenes which took a lot of time and hard work and on the day to enable everyone to have an enjoyable day.

There has been mid year festivities in house/outings to Xmas in July luncheons/concerts all providing a good time for residents.

*continued over page...*

