

# Presidents Report 14 December 2020

It's been a difficult year for everyone. The fact that our AGM is late is another example of the problems caused by the COVID 19 world epidemic.

Our auditors did a great job under difficult circumstances, but that did result in delays. They had serious staff shortages and because of the pandemic conducted their audit off site, which added to the difficulty.

So, I start with an apology for not meeting our legislative obligations to hold an AGM before 30 November. For the sake of completeness, I have spoken to the regulator about our dilemma and he stated that so long as residents were kept informed, he was not concerned. I had the impression that we were not alone, during these COVID times.

Following your request, the Tasmanian Governor agreed to be our patron. She would like to come and meet residents. The Residents Committee is working on a suitable date early in the new year. Something for us all to look forward to.

The defibrillator was another request you made last year that has been fulfilled. Training on its use and general first aid training is being organised by Julie Winton-Monet and David Webb. Let Julie know if you would like to take part.

I would like to acknowledge the existence of the residents committee. I know over time many will see the value of having a residents committee. The committee ran the Melbourne Cup Luncheon and is planning the Christmas lunch. I would like to acknowledge the work of the President, Merle Klug and her team, Ken Hodges and Lenna Grainger.

Also planned for early in the new year is a presentation by a representative from OneCare to talk about home care packages. The presentation has been arranged to help everyone to understand the various government offerings for home care. The presenter, while from a service provider will be able to answer all questions around the various government initiatives and offerings.

A new Charter is being drafted. The Charter will define the roles and responsibilities of Management and the Board. Much of the work was carried out early in the year by a working group comprising the then CEO, Julia Alexander, Board member Sonia Weidenbach and myself. Sonia and I recently completed the work, and a draft will be considered by the Board after the current operational review has been completed.

The broad idea of an operational review was first discussed between Julia Alexander and I and was then put to the Board for consideration. The Board agreed to the Terms of Reference for the review and a Working Party was formed, comprising our Vice President/ Public Officer, Jan Dunsby, an external member, Kerrie Crowder of the Tasmanian Department of Justice, and myself.

Wise Lord and Ferguson (WLF) was appointed to conduct the review. They have completed a review of our written processes and will be conducting interviews with interested residents and Board members soon. As previously stated, no changes will be made without full and proper consultation with residents, and Board agreement. I urge you to have your say.

We also wish to acknowledge the work of our former CEO, Julia Alexander we were sorry to see her go. A lot was achieved in her time at the Centre. On behalf of the Board we wish her well for the future.

I expect that following the review, staff vacancies will be advertised, and anyone will be free to apply.

In the meantime, I want to acknowledge the great work of both Julie Winton-Monet and Wayne Flanagan. They have worked well together and have identified urgent maintenance issues that need addressing. They have also checked to ensure all contractors are qualified and have appropriate insurance cover. They have also directed that all work be carried out to industry standard.

We should also not forget the great work of our volunteers. I know by naming some I will miss others, but those I often hear of are, Wayne White and his team of volunteers in the gardens, Lenna Grainger in the various social activities she arranges and Frouky Sheepers for the wonderful Christmas decorations she made.

We should congratulate them for all their hard work.

Roy Ormerod  
**President**