



PalliativeCare
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

ACT BOARD OUTCOMES

from meeting of 23 November 2020

FROM THE PRESIDENT

THE HUB

Last month I mentioned that the respite centre in Braddon was coming together nicely. This month I am thrilled to tell you that it is a reality. The place has been painted inside and beautiful new carpet laid. The furniture, sourced from Cusack's, Early Settler and a myriad of other outlets has now arrived; the artwork will be hung this week; all the beautiful linen has been laundered; the beds made up; flower pots established on the deck and all the little touches that make a home have been put in place.

This has been an enormous undertaking and I extend my personal thanks to everyone involved: our staff, in particular Tracy Gillard our CEO, Board Members, their partners, volunteers and friends of Palliative Care. Particular thanks go to Morgan's Financial Services, the John James Foundation, the Chief Minister's Department and the ACT Government for their significant financial contributions. It is not possible to list all of the amazing donations people have made but you know who you are, so please accept my sincerest thanks for helping make the Hub a reality.

FUNDRAISING DINNER

Arrangements are now well in hand for the fundraising dinner to be held at the Australian National University on 4 December. Due to COVID restrictions we were limited to 150 attendees and I am pleased to tell you it is a sell-out event. We have a diamond, a seat at the Brumbies, two staycations and a stunning south sea pearl necklace among the wonderful prizes to be won. Again, I extend my thanks to the organisations that have contributed so generously to this event.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

A successful AGM was held on 19 November at Kamberra Winery. After presenting his financial report, we sadly said goodbye to Anton Dowling, our Treasurer for the last three years. Anton has provided outstanding support and placed the organisation on a sound financial footing for the future. Con Sfyris and Vicki Thompson, both existing Board Members, were re-appointed for a further three years and Luke Sheehy, who was co-opted to the Board mid-year, was appointed for a three-year term. At the Board Meeting the Executive Positions were confirmed as follows:

- President: Louise Mayo
- Vice President: Con Sfyris
- Secretary: Jenni McMullan
- Acting Treasurer: Michelle Kelly
- Public Officer: Luke Sheehy

Of the remaining two directors, Vicki Thompson provides advice on HR matters and Carolyn Smith on health matters.



CHRISTMAS SHUTDOWN

The Board agreed that the Palliative Care Office should close between Christmas and New Year ie 29, 30 and 31 December. Phones will be diverted to the afterhours service.

CHRISTMAS WISHES

This was the final Board Meeting for 2020. Little did we know in January the challenges that 2020 would bring. I am immensely proud of the way that the Palliative Care staff and volunteers adjusted to the changes that had to be made because of COVID. I am aware that some volunteers were obliged to give up shifts because of the virus and have not been able to secure the same shifts once restrictions eased, however, the PalCare staff have worked hard to juggle client needs with volunteer availability. Further volunteer opportunities will arise with the opening of the Hub.

A huge thank you goes to everyone involved with Palliative Care this year. This is an organisation that centres around people care. We deliver because we have outstanding staff, wonderful volunteers and a dedicated Board, all of which augurs well for our future.

I wish you all a very merry Christmas. If you are travelling, please travel safely, and I look forward to working with you all in 2021.

