



PalliativeCare
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

FUNDRAISING DINNER

I am pleased to be stepping in for the President for the next five weeks while she takes a well-earned holiday.

Since the last Monday in April fell between the weekend and ANZAC Day, the Board decided that the 'April meeting' would take place on 1 May.

This Board meeting was hot on the heels of our very successful Fundraising Dinner, held on 29 April at QT. We had 500 people attend this event and I am delighted to tell you that we raised around \$180,000 which is a magnificent result. Events such as these do not happen by themselves: they take months of planning, months of securing items for the 300 Butterfly Bags, the 148 Silent Auction items, and the 11 live auction items, not to mention organising the champagne bar and the printing of pledges and catalogues. There was a mammoth input from the Board, staff and volunteers and I want to particularly commend the outstanding input of staff members Tracy Gillard, Sav Gollopally, Ann Monahan and Ann Anderson. I also would like to warmly thank our volunteers who were able to assist with setting up of the function room and throughout the evening also. The evening would certainly not have been such a success without the fantastic input of all those involved. Ann Monahan even put her creative hand to good use, making a garden sphere at Tharwa Valley Forge which raised \$500 in the silent auction.





LONG TERM RESPITE CENTRE

At the dinner, the President was delighted to announce the partnership between PC ACT and the John James Foundation to build a permanent respite facility. We have been in negotiation for many months, and I am pleased to advise that the Foundation will build the premises while PC ACT will furnish and operate it. Leo's Place in Braddon will continue to operate during the construction of the new premises.

VOLUNTARY ASSISTED DYING

Following consultation with various stakeholders, PC ACT released a position statement on Voluntary Assisted Dying on 5 April 2023. The ACT Minister for Human Rights, Ms Tara Cheyne MLA, has thanked PC ACT for sharing its position statement and advised that our submission will inform the VAD scheme.

NATIONAL PALLIATIVE CARE WEEK

We are again busy during National Palliative Care Week which runs from 21-27 May. Activities include the screening of Live the Life You Please at Palace Cinema at 6.00 pm on Tuesday 23 May. Tickets, which are free of charge, are available through the website link [National Palliative Care Week 2023 - 'Live the life you please' – Palliative Care ACT \(pallcareact.org.au\)](https://www.palliativecareact.org.au)

At 9.30 am on Thursday 25 May we will be launching our next toolkit at the Canberra Museum and Gallery. This toolkit covers the very sensitive issue of Paediatric Care. Volunteers are very welcome to attend. Our third event, to be held at Clare Holland House, will see His Excellency the Governor General and Mrs Hurley attend an afternoon tea co-hosted by Palliative Care Australia and Palliative Care ACT. This year's theme for Palliative Care Week is 'Workforce' so it will be an opportunity for the Governor General to meet some of the volunteers who work at Clare Holland House.

CEO ARRANGEMENTS

Jake Docker has resigned from the position of CEO and arrangements are in hand for a replacement. In the interim Tracy Gillard will step back into the position.

LEO'S PLACE

Requests for a break at Leo's Place have really gathered momentum, to the point that we now have people wait listed for stays. Visitors often comment on the comfort, serenity and peace that they find at Leo's, and it is certainly our intention to create the same sort of environment in the new build.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Palliative Care ACT will be held at 6.00 pm on Monday 22 May, held one week earlier this month owing to the absence of some Board Members later in the month.

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Vice President