

# Neighbourhood news

Our latest news and favourite moments



Groundwater Lodge  
Yaralla Place

December 2025

## From the Managers

Rozina Hegarty,  
Yaralla Place

Celin Thomas,  
Groundwater  
Lodge



*We love helping residents feel at home, creating homely spaces and planning activities that support them to continue doing the things they enjoy.*

Our communities share a commitment to taking the time to get to know each resident's preferences, routines and life story, and bringing personal touches into their daily living spaces. Here are some recent stories that showcase how we do this.

Thank you to all our dedicated staff, volunteers and families who make this possible through their care, compassion and commitment.

On November 1, the Government's new Aged Care Act came into effect. We welcome these changes that are strengthening Australia's aged care system and ensuring that the rights of older people are at the centre of their care. We remain committed to delivering care that is respectful, safe and tailored to every resident's needs.



## Summer sunshine brings growth, connection and community spirit



*There's something about summer in Maryborough – the sun is warm, spirits are high and there's a hum of activity in the gardens as residents connect and build community pride.*

At Yaralla Place, a special partnership with Riverside Christian College has brought generations together in a purposeful way and resulted in a beautiful and meaningful new outdoor feature. As part of their Certificate I in Construction studies, a group of students has worked together with residents to design, build and install a series of stunning wall gardens, much to the delight of all.

While the students have gained real-world experience that counts towards a qualification, residents have received a lasting gift that will bring them together and brighten our shared space.

Friendships are blossoming at Groundwater Lodge, too. Newly arrived resident, Rex, has enjoyed his new neighbours supporting him to settle in and feel at home. Resident, Joe, has built him a wooden planter box and, with Dan and Cole's help, Rex has planted out spinach, beans and herbs donated by the team.

"I've always loved gardening and I'm so grateful for the Groundwater Lodge community coming together to help me feel at home and reignite my passion for this hobby," says Rex. He's looking forward to seeing the results of their shared efforts and watching the veggies grow.

**Our difference** is that we preserve what makes each community special



**Our innovative model** optimises care and performance



**Resident wellbeing** is at the heart of everything we do



**We've built industry-first technology** that drives improvement



## In 2025, Apollo Care turned five

*PresCare Maryborough is proud to be one of Apollo Care's growing alliance of 14 not-for-profit aged care communities.*

When Apollo Care started five years ago, our vision was to strengthen regional aged care communities, like PresCare Maryborough, so older Australians could stay living in their home towns.

We provide expert support to local managers and teams so they can continue to provide the best care to residents. We also invest in enhancing our communities to make them even better places to live and work.

Find out more about how we're helping PresCare Maryborough and our other communities evolve and thrive. Visit [apollocare.com.au/about](http://apollocare.com.au/about) and hear from our four leaders.

## Welcome to Groundwater Lodge's new Manager, Celin



*Celin, who recently joined Groundwater Lodge to take over as Residential Services Manager from Jinto George, is deeply committed to the local community and creating a genuine home where residents feel valued, respected and connected.*

"I'm so excited to be here," she says. "It's truly a privilege to be part of such a caring and dedicated team who are all united in putting residents first."

With over 16 years' experience as a Registered Nurse, including eight in the aged care sector, Celin is passionate about caring for older adults and giving back to the community.

"I look forward to continuing to get to know residents and their loved ones who, together with our staff, make Groundwater a truly wonderful and welcoming community," she says.



## Christmas on Facebook

*At PresCare Yaralla Place and Groundwater Lodge, we're excited about all the festive activities, outings and celebrations planned for this time of year.*

Make sure you keep up to date with all the fun things we'll be getting up to by following us on Facebook.

## Feedback

*Feedback from residents and families is important to us because it helps us improve and make positive changes.*

We also love hearing when we are doing something well.

**You can provide feedback in these 3 ways:**

1. Tell us in person
2. Complete our feedback form and either place it into our feedback box or hand it to a staff member
3. Email Apollo Care's Chief Governance Officer at [feedback@apollocare.com.au](mailto:feedback@apollocare.com.au)

*"The staff at Yaralla Place are amazing. I'm grateful for the personalised care my Mum receives."*

Son of resident



## Carolyn continues her creative pursuits at Yaralla Place

*Crafting and sewing have always been a part of Carolyn's life. Over the years, she's produced some magnificent creations, including making her daughter's formal dresses, wedding dress and bridesmaids' dresses!*

And, she hasn't stopped since making PresCare Maryborough her home last year.

When some fabrics and felt were generously gifted to Carolyn by friend and resident, Margaret, she immediately set about creating something for residents and staff to enjoy.

With the festive season upon us and an abundance of red and green felt, she's hard at work making a series of stunning embroidered Christmas decorations to brighten the walls of Acacia Household.

As a member of the Country Women's Association, she's also arranged a generous donation of some matching Christmas table runners. Our community is going to look very festive!

*"There are lots of activities for the residents at Groundwater Lodge, and my Mum is happy joining in on all of them!"*



Daughter of resident



## Vintage cars roll into Groundwater Lodge

*PresCare Maryborough residents from both communities were recently treated to another trip down memory lane when the local Historical Vehicles Car Club came for a personalised car show, transforming our car park into a gleaming display of polished chrome and classic craftsmanship.*

Residents spent the morning strolling amongst the vehicles, admiring models they once owned or longed for in their younger years. There was plenty of laughter as they shared stories of first cars, family road trips or leisurely Sunday drives.

For resident Alan, the visit was especially meaningful. Having once crafted rally car trophies, he was thrilled to reconnect with a world he has always loved. He proudly showed the visitors and fellow residents one of the trophies he'd created, along with a certificate of appreciation he'd received from the local Antique Motor Club almost ten years ago.

It's events and activities like this that bring us all joy. We love welcoming local community groups to foster connection and conversation, and importantly, encouraging residents to continue to embrace their interests and passions.



# Notice board

## A message of joy and love

From Wayne Knapp,  
Apollo Care's National  
Spiritual Care Lead



This month, leading to the joy and celebration of Christmas Day, let us remember the birth of Jesus.

The Christmas story is not only the historical record of the birth of Jesus, born in a manger to Mary, but it is also personal, living our lives with love, being cared for, and caring for each other.

*May peace, joy and love be with each of us this Christmas.*



## Special events

### *Resident Christmas parties*

**Wed 3 – Fri 5 Dec** Yaralla Place

**Fri 5 Dec** Groundwater Lodge

**Wed 10 Dec**

Christmas lights tour,  
Groundwater Lodge

**Thurs 11 Dec**

Christmas Morning Melodies at the Brolga Theatre followed by RSL lunch, Groundwater Lodge & Yaralla Place

**Mon 15 Dec**

Christmas lights tour,  
Yaralla Place

**Thurs 18 Dec**

Christmas Church service,  
Yaralla Place

**Thurs 18 Dec**

Carols by Candlelight,  
Yaralla Place

**Fri 19 Dec**

Community Carols Concert,  
Yaralla Place

**Wed 24 Dec**

Christmas Church service,  
Groundwater Lodge

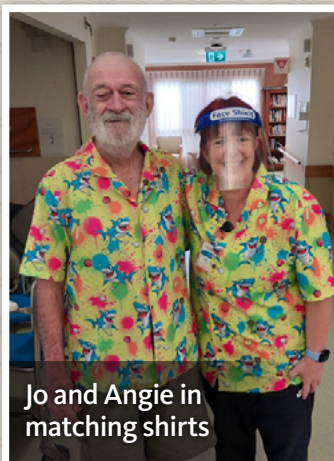
**Wed 31 Dec**

New Years Eve party,  
Yaralla Place.

## Favourite moments



Celebrating Oktoberfest



Jo and Angie in matching shirts



Connecting with the animals at Riverside College farm

# Quality & Safety Report: Quality Improvement Projects



**Apollo Care is committed to using best-practice care governance and clinical governance systems to deliver exceptional resident and client experiences in all of our communities.**

We recognise that transparency is a key part of delivering on this objective, and we are providing all residents, family members and representatives, and staff with up-to-date quality and safety information.

We are excited to showcase our achievements and acknowledge the areas where we need to improve.

## ***November 2025 update: Quality Improvement Projects***

Apollo Care is committed to continuous quality improvement of its care and services. Opportunities for improvement arise from resident, client and family feedback, including complaints and suggestions, from audit and quality monitoring activities, and from incident and hazard data.

### ***Some of the quality improvement projects underway at PresCare Maryborough include:***

- As part of a community project with Riverside Christian College and Bunnings, Yaralla Place has enhanced our outdoor areas by adding sensory gardens, raised garden beds and shaded seating
- In line with the Strengthen Aged Care Standards, we have introduced 24-hour snack stations at both communities so residents can access refreshments outside of regular mealtimes
- Yaralla Place has co-designed dedicated quiet spaces with residents, for reading, resting or spiritual reflection
- Groundwater Lodge & Yaralla Place have implemented Rapid Global for all visitor and contractor sign-ins to streamline the process and increase security
- Groundwater Lodge has installed charging stations for electric mobility scooters
- Yaralla Place now has a dedicated storeroom for the safe and organised storage of equipment.



## **Family always welcome**

*At PresCare Maryborough, we love helping residents stay connected to their loved ones. We're lucky to have so many welcoming indoor and outdoor spaces in our two communities where residents can enjoy spending time together with family and friends.*

Resident, Mary, treasures visits from her family, especially when she gets to meet new additions, like her young nephew, Max. "I love showing them the garden and the aviary," she says.

*As we head towards the end of the year, we'd like to remind families and friends that you're welcome to visit your loved ones at any time.*

*Whether it's connecting for a stroll through our gardens, a cup of tea, holding a special celebration or even joining in some of our activities, we'd be happy to see you!*





# Staff Profiles

Meet Anupa and Kesiya, two caring members of our team using technology to enhance resident experience

Care Planner, Kesiya (above), and Registered Nurse, Anupa (right), love connecting with residents and their families and working together to ensure care is delivered with kindness and compassion.



Like every member of our Care Team, Kesiya uses CareKeeper, an advanced technology application, to better understand and connect with each resident, so she can help them enjoy every day.

“CareKeeper is very helpful for the Care staff. It holds up-to-date information about each resident’s care needs, their lifestyle preferences and their life story. I have everything I need to start a conversation, build meaningful connections and provide more personalised care,” says Kesiya.

Anupa agrees. “Everything I need is available with me on the floor, in one pocket-sized device. I can open the resident’s profile, immediately see their medication requirements or any updates from other members of the team and align care to their specific needs.”

“As Kesiya says, I’m also able to build rapport and trust quickly because I can see their hobbies and interests and can start a great conversation about things they like to talk about,” she adds.

Both say CareKeeper saves time on admin and helps them prioritise tasks. “We can tailor care to each resident’s needs and spend more quality time directly with them,” they say.

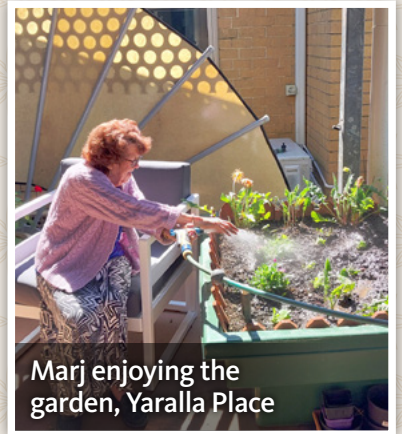
## Favourite moments



Admiring the classic cars



Feeding the animals at the Wildlife Sanctuary



Marj enjoying the garden, Yaralla Place



Making gingerbread cookies

### Groundwater Lodge:

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