

# newslink

DECEMBER 2010

 lifecare  
CHURCHES OF CHRIST





(From left) Beth Morris, Doris Trivett, Doreen Maxwell, Jan Hunting, Kathleen Hicking, Lil Lambert, Dorothy Durber, Doreen Purdie, and Catharina Baron

## *Festive fun is part of Living Every Day*

The festive season is in full swing across Life Care with decorations and celebrations bringing colour and laughter into the lives of residents, clients, family members, staff and volunteers.

The fun really began some time ago with a "Christmas in July in September" event hosted by Community Services carer Wilma Johns and her husband, Mike.

The couple planned to have a group of clients known as the Crafty Chats at their home for a mid-year Christmas get-together, but an overseas trip intervened and the event was delayed until September.

It was an occasion worth waiting for with Wilma and Mike presenting a magnificent lunch with friends volunteering to assist, gifts for guests and a special visit from Father Christmas.

Smiling and enjoying each other's company is a wonderful part of Christmas

To "top off the Christmas pudding" Wilma and Mike donated a plazma television to the craft group that now holds pride of place in the meeting room at Community Services, Reynella.

Fast forward to December and the Christmas trees, tinsel, balloons and baubles suddenly appeared across our various sites as festivities were organised.

Retiree residents at Murlali Village, Christies Downs were among the first party-goers as happy participants in a Christmas luncheon organised by Life Care at the Port Noarlunga Hotel on December 1.

Katherine Clark, our Retirement Living Coordinator, hosted the luncheon with Murlali residents joined by Chaplain, Debbie Wright, along with Peter Manning and Derek Wix from Property Services.

Doris Trivett has lived at Murlali Village for 23 years and says she would "not move for the world."

"I love Christmas events like this," Doris said over lunch. "It brings us all together."

Doreen Purdie is the residents' representative at Murlali and she agreed the Christmas celebration was a great idea.

"Murlali is a very friendly little community," she said. "Coming together like this as we prepare for Christmas makes it even more special."

Debbie said Christmas was not always an easy time for some people with memories of loved ones departed or places enjoyed long ago.

"Yet to see the residents from Murlali coming together to smile and enjoy each other's company over lunch is a wonderful part of Christmas."

Katherine said the event was in line with Life Care's efforts to encourage everyone involved in the organisation to Live Every Day.



Here's cheers! Peter Manning and Derek Wix share a Christmas drink

News Link is the official publication of the Churches of Christ Life Care Inc

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### Our Mission:

Our purpose is to partner with people to embrace life and live every day.

### Our Vision:

Life Care is an innovative provider of quality services to the ageing. We are recognised as a preferred option of choice for active ageing and an employer of choice for staff.

This is achieved by an outstanding team working in a flexible and integrated approach with volunteers and partners.

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## On The Cover

Murlali Village resident, Catharina Baron and Katherine Clark, Life Care's Retirement Living Coordinator enjoy a Christmas luncheon at Port Noarlunga

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### A message from our Coordinating Chaplain

The promise of Christmas is Emmanuel, God with us.

Whatever the future holds we do not go into it alone because of Christmas.

May you have a blessed Christmas, and know the presence of God in the new year.

Doug Walladge

# Delivering the best models

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Life Care's 60th anniversary celebrations this year have created a strong basis of pride in our past and confidence in our future.

The recent Government House reception for Life Care highlighted the respect our organisation has generated in the community for its long-term commitment in meeting the needs of older South Australians and their families.

In dedicating Government House to this function the Governor, His Excellency Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce, noted that our organisation had adapted well to changes in our ageing society.

“ **New momentum in our mission to partner with people as they embrace life and Live Every Day** ”

His Excellency and Mrs Scarce, who commits time to volunteer in aged care, made Life Care Directors, management, staff, volunteers, residents and clients welcome and said we had much to celebrate.

This function allowed us to honour people who have made significant contributions to the organisation in the past and to create lasting memories for those who shared friendly conversation with the Governor and his wife. Photographs in this edition showcase how people enjoyed the event and the pride it generated

Above all, the 60th anniversary this year has elevated the profile of Life Care in the wider community and put new momentum into our mission of partnering with people as they embrace life and Live Every Day.

It has served as a springboard for some exciting new plans over the next decade and beyond with Life Care committed to being among the most innovative providers of quality services to the ageing.

We will work to maintain a position as the preferred provider of services for active ageing and the employer of choice for people wishing to be at the leading edge of aged care.

Life Care does not aspire to be the biggest provider in the aged care sector, but it will continue on its



Rosamond Robins and Allen Candy share a laugh at the Government House function

# *and standards of aged care*



Allen Candy chatting with Adelaide City Councillor, David Plumridge (left), representing the Lord Mayor and the Governor, Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce

strategic path to deliver the best models and standards of care.

People are central in our mission framework underpinned by key strategic initiatives relating to:

- innovation, quality and improvement;
- success and financial sustainability;
- strategic planning;
- leadership;
- customer and market focus; and
- knowledge and information systems support.

Our future will involve modifications to our built form - including major modifications to Glenrose Court, Roselin Court and Parkrose Village - a complete human resources review,

new professional development opportunities for staff, and advanced information technology systems to ensure we can deliver on our aspirations.

We will embrace latest research and innovative programs from around the world in areas such as dementia care and new staffing models.

We will grasp opportunities to raise the profile of Life Care and contribute to community debate about issues that create opportunities and options for older South Australians.

All of these important goals will be achieved through a skilled and committed team of employees and volunteers each contributing to our paramount role as a people business.

It has been important to celebrate the achievements of the past and the outstanding contributions of people who have served Life Care before us. I have enjoyed sharing in these celebrations and meeting many people at our various sites in recent months.

I am very proud to be leading this organisation of people who have a wonderful passion for their work in the best interests of those in our care and their loved ones.

I thank you sincerely for your endeavours and I wish you a very happy festive season and a safe and successful 2011.

Allen Candy  
Chief Executive Officer



# Governor steps in to help



John Stock



Jean and Graham Knight with the Governor and Mrs Scarce

Life Care's 60th anniversary reached vice-regal proportions recently with a Government House party to celebrate the milestone.

The Governor, His Excellency Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce, and Mrs Liz Scarce, officially welcomed Life Care to a lavish morning tea and reunion with people who played pioneering roles in the organisation.

Also present were Gay Thompson, representing the Minister for Ageing; Christopher Pyne, Federal Member for Sturt; Senator Dana Wortley; and Allan Quire, Acting State Manager for

the Department of Health and Ageing.

Guests were invited by the vice-regal couple to tour Government House while Mrs Scarce took the opportunity to chat with people about her enjoyment of volunteering in aged care.

The event culminated a series of 60th birthday celebrations at our various sites bringing together Life



Mrs Scarce greets Thelma Jones



Dulcie Bridgland



Guests arriving at Government House

# *us celebrate 60 years of caring*



Wendy and Barry Slade



Barry and Barbara Gear



The Governor and Laurie Higgins

Care Directors, management, staff members, volunteers, residents, clients, family members, contractors and suppliers.

The Governor said the 60-year milestone was a great achievement for Life Care demonstrating an organisation that was able to adapt to changing needs in the community.

He said the founders of Life Care would be very pleased with what had been achieved and there was much to celebrate.

Life Care's Chairman, John Stock, said the organisation had been built on trust and respect and the future would revolve around helping every person associated with it to live every day to the full.

The Governor congratulated Laurie Higgins, Barry Slade, Graham Knight and Barbara Gear for long and dedicated service as Life Care Directors and presented each of them with a framed certificate of appreciation.

Laurie Higgins said he was delighted to see how Life Care had grown and developed over the years.

Graham Knight also said he had been excited and encouraged by what had been achieved.

"I feel very privileged to have served Life Care for so long, but at the same time it is an honour to do something you enjoy," he added.

Barry Slade said Life Care had been on a "great journey" and it had a very bright future in meeting the growing challenges of aged care.

Barbara Gear added the organisation had been loyal to its original ideals of Christian care for older people and their families.

Mrs Scarce personally greeted Thelma Jones, widow of the first Administrator of Christian Rest Homes, later known as Churches of Christ Retirement Services, and more recently Life Care.

She was also clearly delighted to chat with some of our residents who were special guests at the Government House function.

Reynella Lodge resident, Dulcie Bridgland, recalled serving as a member of the Women's Auxiliary Australian Air Force (WAAAF) and delivering flowers to Government House for Anzac Day and Remembrance Day ceremonies.

John Farmer, a resident at Parkrose Village, chipped in with his memories of delivering bread to Government House each day on a horse and cart.

Guests enjoyed wandering through the expansive day rooms at Government House viewing paintings and ornaments, many dating back to the earliest days of South Australia.

John Stock thanked the Governor and Mrs Scarce for their welcome and hospitality.

"It is very special to celebrate our anniversary in this way," he said. "You have done us proud."

# Rapid growth and new standards



Kingsley Curtis

Australia and with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in South East Asia, Kingsley was recruited into aged care and quickly embraced its challenges while greatly assisted by Russell Jones and Helen Sinkinson.

He served as Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Aged Care Organisations Association in South Australia and the Northern Territory. Kingsley was also a Board member and Chairman of the Aged Care Australia Residential Care Resources Committee.

With changes in Commonwealth aged care funding in 1997, Kingsley was asked to train others in the industry in areas including developing and implementing quality programs, staff training, facilities and financial management. The following year he was awarded a Meritorious Services Individual Award by Aged Care Australia.

Our organisation was fortunate to have a man of such energy, vision and expertise. In the early 1990s, he helped establish the new headquarters at Melbourne Street, North Adelaide and negotiated buying properties at Everard Park to establish Parkrose Court and the purchase of land at Aldinga.

In 1991, the organisation bought an ageing private hospital and nursing home at Reynella along with serviced apartments, independent living units and two houses at Old Reynella. A \$3.5 million upgrade established the Reynella Lodge complex in 1995-96 with the transfer of bed licences from the former Botanic Nursing Home at Hackney.

Meanwhile, a major refurbishment had been finalised at Parkrose Village, along with modernisation of Roselin

60TH ANNIVERSARY  
1990-2010

This edition of our newsletter completes the reflection on the past 60 years of achievement for Life Care. In previous issues, we have highlighted key developments over the decades since the first aged care home was opened at St Georges, now Glen Osmond, in 1950.

Here we look back over the past two decades through the eyes of former Chief Executive Officers Kingsley Curtis and Mark Criddle.

In his years at the helm of Churches of Christ Retirement Services (later Life Care) from 1990 to 1999, Kingsley Curtis was a key driver in establishing Reynella Lodge and Aldinga Beach Court as new residential aged care facilities in the southern region of Adelaide.

He also steered pioneering concepts in community care and staff development to improve options for the elderly in South Australia.

Having established impressive administrative credentials with the Education Department in South



Residents enjoy the quality of life at Hayfield Plains, Balaklava

# *of care define past two decades*



Aldinga Beach Court, a stylish new residential care facility



Norman House provides a new model of respite care

Court and the purchase of additional units at Glenrose Court.

Community Care programs were introduced in the southern region of Adelaide after a successful pilot program among residents in independent living units at Reynella Lodge. This paved the way for the Commonwealth Community Aged Care Packages that operate today.

In 1995, construction of a new residential aged care facility began on the greenfields site at Aldinga Beach. Around this period, chaplaincy services expanded and new computing systems were introduced across the organisation.

"It was an exciting time of rapid expansion, and we recruited Mark Criddle as the Support Services Manager to work with Russell Jones, who was my able assistant," Kingsley said.

"We upgraded Roselin Court, expanded Community Care programs, took over responsibility of Murlali Village from the church at Noarlunga and established new retirement housing at Parkrose Village and Aldinga Beach.

"There was a need for careful management and staff development related to the transition to new funding and accreditation requirements from the Commonwealth Government and, at the same time we placed a new focus on areas including occupational health and safety and workplace equality.

"There was a great deal of expertise and enthusiasm, and it was important for me to work closely with staff and understand key issues at the various locations.

"I made a point of visiting the sites each week to meet staff members and residents."

In 1999, a significant redevelopment began at Glenrose Court requiring residents to relocate to the nearby Julia Farr Centre for many months. This was managed with minimal disruption to residents and their families.

"I reflect on my time with the organisation with pride in knowing that we implemented a process of continuous improvement through expansion, redevelopments and

staff training to ensure we were well positioned as a leader in aged care services in South Australia," Kingsley said.

"It is also important to note that there was close cooperation between the not-for-profit and for profit sectors to support the care needs of older South Australians."

Mark Criddle became the fourth Chief Executive Officer for the organisation in its 60-year history, serving from 1999 to 2010. He brought extensive expertise and experience in finance, accounting and business management.

The redevelopment of Glenrose Court was completed early in Mark's time at the helm with the opening of the new home in April 2000. The Melbourne Street offices at North Adelaide that were being rented were purchased from Churches of Christ SA/NT in 2002 and then upgraded to accommodate the needs of the growing organisation.

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## 60TH ANNIVERSARY 1990-2010

### From Previous Page

The name and logo were reviewed in 2002 with Life Care becoming the new name through a major rebranding and restructuring process. In 2009, the brand was again refreshed and a bright new logo introduced to better position our organisation in the aged care marketplace.

"We analysed our growth strategies for residential and community services, along with retirement housing, to identify areas of need and opportunity," Mark explained.

"This led to a new focus on strategic planning and a greater emphasis on budgeting. Planning for the future was the key and it included a review of the Board structure and a number of changes to the Constitution."

Commonwealth funding through a number of Aged Care Approvals Rounds provided for a further 40 beds at Aldinga Beach Court and the introduction of new Community Aged Care Packages and Extended Aged Care at Home Packages in the southern and eastern suburbs.

The building project at Aldinga Beach was completed in 2007 to provide much-needed beds, service areas and offices. With the expansion of Community Services, a new office was opened in the east to provide support to clients.



Roselin Court resident Yvonne Gray and Mark Criddle

“ We analysed our growth strategies for residential and community services, along with retirement housing, to identify areas of need and opportunity ”

Day Therapy Services were relocated from Roselin Court to the Wellington Centre at Payneham in 2004. Life Care also took over funding from SA Baptist Homes in 2005 doubling the size of the programs run at Payneham.

Life Care was successful in obtaining funding from the National Respite Carer Program in 2006 to convert a recently purchased old home at Everard Park into Norman House to operate respite care, thus creating a new model of care for clients.

At Balaklava, Life Care saw the opportunity to develop a retirement village for people across the northern plains. It entered into detailed negotiations with the Wakefield Regional Council and inspected a range of properties before deciding to purchase land in 2004. Today, this land has been transformed into Hayfield Plains retirement village. The village and community centre were opened in April 2006.

Other retirement living homes were completed at Heritage Rose, Everard Park and Aldinga Beach Court. Land was also recently purchased at Murray Bridge and Marion for further expansion of retirement living services.

In February this year, Life Care farewelled Mark after an era of major challenges and achievements.

# MPs take special interest in Life Care

Life Care has welcomed many special guests to our 60th birthday celebrations this year.

Across our various sites there were colourful anniversary parties attended by representatives of Federal, State and Local Government sectors and key industry bodies.

Business Development Executive, Lyn Polley, said the anniversary has showcased Life Care in the community and created lasting impressions on people who participated in celebrations.

"It has been a lot of fun for residents, clients, staff and volunteers and a great way to reinforce our commitment to help every person involved with Life Care to embrace our mission to Live Every Day," Lyn said.

"The 60th celebrations have defined the many achievements and milestones that set Life Care apart in aged care.

"Importantly, we can all look to the future with confidence as Life Care works to meet the growing needs of older South Australians."



Amanda Rishworth, the Federal Member for Kingston, cuts the birthday cake at Reynella Lodge with resident Eric Chittleborough



State Opposition Leader, Isobel Redmond, enjoys meeting and greeting at the Norman House party



Grace Portolesi, State Minister for Volunteers, meets party-goers at the Community Lifestyle Centre

# Teamwork all fun in 2010 City to Bay

KEEPING FIT TO  
LIVE EVERY DAY



Alexis Chan was our youngest supporter in the 2010 City to Bay

When it came to putting fun into the run - and in some cases the walk - Life Care took the honours in this year's City to Bay event.

A big Life Care team, comprising clients, family members, staff and volunteers participated in the event with some choosing to cover a quarter or a half of the distance, while others traversed the full twelve kilometres.

Resplendent in Life Care T-shirts, team members did us proud and they celebrated with a barbecue and refreshments at Glenelg upon completion of the course.

Participation in the City to Bay was an initiative of the Community Lifestyle Centre.

Jenny Edwards-Neeson, Team Leader at the Community Lifestyle Centre, and Jacinta Robertson, Community Coordinator of Respite Programs, said it was a wonderful team building exercise and a family friendly day.

"We promoted the City to Bay among

our carers group, guests and staff and some brought along partners and children," Jacinta said. "It was an excellent way to promote physical health and community participation."

Sixteen participants in Community Lifestyle programs entered the event, including some clients aged in their eighties.

Santina Feo joined the Community Lifestyle Centre on the recommendation of her doctor to help maintain an active lifestyle despite the effects of arthritis.

To suggest that she would be an eager participant in this year's City to Bay fun event was beyond Santina's wildest dreams. However, with encouragement from other program participants and the urging of her grand daughter, Daneeka, Santina lined up to walk in the 2010 City to Bay expecting to complete a quarter of the 12km course from Adelaide to Glenelg.

Instead, she walked half way and felt so exhilarated by the achievement she is already planning for next year's event.

"It is hard to believe how the gentle exercise and the social interaction offered by the Community Lifestyle Centre has changed my outlook," she said.

Congratulations to everyone in Life Care's City to Bay team of 2010 and thanks to the volunteers who cooked a superb barbecue for our participants at Glenelg.



Life Care team members celebrate their City to Bay achievements

# Dining out on a new lifestyle features

A major stage of renovation work has been completed at Glenrose Court to create a stylish new courtyard, dining room and cafe.

The stage upgrade was officially celebrated on November 23 in a fitting finale to Life Care's 60th anniversary parties this year.

Chief Executive Officer, Allen Candy, highlighted that Glenrose Court was the site of the organisation's first aged care home in 1950.

He said Churches of Christ had decided to invest in aged care in the late 1940s in an era of petrol and food rationing with the nation struggling to recover financially after World War II.

Aged care was not generally considered a priority in that period of austerity, but Churches of Christ pressed on with a major fund-raising effort to purchase an expansive home and surrounding grounds at St Georges, now Glen Osmond, to accommodate older South Australians.

"So it is great to celebrate at the site where it all started," Allen said. The new dining room, outdoor area and cafe are part of a \$6 million Life Care project to create stylish and functional new features at



Jean Knight cuts Life Care's birthday cake

Glenrose Court.

Allen thanked residents and their families, along with staff and volunteers, for their patience and understanding during the rebuilding phase.

He called on long-serving Glenrose Court volunteer, Jean Knight, wife of former Life Care Chairman, Graham Knight, to join him in cutting the 60th birthday cake.

For residents and family members, the rebuilding project has created bright and appealing new facilities for dining and outdoor enjoyment.

Resident Mignone O'Doherty

## PEOPLE & PLACES ... GLENROSE COURT

welcomed the "lovely new features" and Beryl Gard described the refurbishment as "quite wonderful."

Brenda Wood added: "We are so lucky to have such facilities. The staff here have been marvellous to make things as comfortable as possible for residents during the construction phase."

Norma Lehmann is a relatively new resident having moved from Berri to be close to family members in Adelaide. "I couldn't be happier with the way things have worked out for us," she said.

Norma's daughter, Dianne, added the family was thankful to the founders of Life Care for deciding to go into aged care and to the current management in maintaining the organisation as an accessible and quality provider in the not-for-profit sector.



Architect Necia Mickel (centre) with Life Care Directors Graeme Murley and Anne Lawson in the new courtyard



Sherrie McLean, Mina Rezk and Christa Weikle enjoy the cafe

# Big occasions to reflect on the past

## PEOPLE & PLACES ... REYNELLA LODGE

Reynella Lodge joined in Life Care's 60th birthday celebrations with a delightful morning tea party and display of photographs, tins, crockery and trinkets from last century.

Old photographs and posters also made an appearance for a moving Remembrance Day service on November 11 conducted by Chaplain, Greg Elsdon.



Jean Ellis and Betty Kennedy in party mood

Recently we welcomed students from Morphett Vale Primary School for intergenerational activity. They joined residents in making cup cakes while teachers entertained with songs and guitar playing.

Westminster School students also visited in early December with plans for regular interaction with residents in 2011.

Bus tours are always popular among residents with recent day trips including the Adelaide Zoo, Goolwa and the Hallett Cove shopping centre.

Corporate Services staff members have been fun participants in activities at Reynella Lodge. Business Management Executive, Andrew Harris, was our special guest for a quiz and Residential Care Executive, Derek Dittrich, enjoyed chipping in for Deal Or No Deal.

Congratulations to Betty Kennedy, winner of the 2010 footy tipping competition, and runner-up Chas Muller.

## PEOPLE & PLACES ... PARKROSE VILLAGE



Jack Farmer

## The tranquil enjoyment of Tai Chi

Tai Chi is a gentle form of exercise that looks more like a series of slow-motion dance movements.

When taught properly, it is a safe and tranquil exercise that provides physiological and psychological benefits for participants.

Parkrose Village has introduced a Tai Chi program that has become very popular. Resident Jean Baillie is a happy participant saying the program has physical benefits and helps breathing.

Our Melbourne Cup luncheon was a great success with resident Jack Farmer saying: "It was a lovely

day to watch the races, enjoy the company of others and even have a beer."

It may now be the cricket season, but it would be remiss of us not to congratulate Jack Farmer who won this year's Parkrose Village footy tipping competition.

On 30 November a group of residents enjoyed a dolphin cruise from Port Adelaide.

The Barker Inlet is home to a group of dolphins that are carefully monitored for their well-being and they make a wonderful spectacle so close to the city.

# Baxter the terrier is our latest resident

For many years, residents at Aldinga Beach Court have enjoyed regular visits from the pets of volunteer members of Caring Canine Companions.

Spending time with the friendly dogs has been a joy for residents, but sometimes they are reluctant to say goodbye until the next visit.

Now the Aldinga Beach Court community has welcomed a permanent canine resident, a cheeky little terrier known as Baxter.

Baxter was acquired from a private owner and he is being trained by Clare Mark, daughter of Sue Mark, the Residential Care Manager at Aldinga Beach Court.

Volunteer and Lifestyle Coordinator, Carole McHugh, said Baxter had quickly befriended residents, staff and volunteers.



Dawn enjoys a cuddle with Baxter

"We still welcome visits from Caring Canine Companions, but Baxter is being beautifully trained as our own four-legged resident," Carole said.

Aldinga Beach Court resident, Dawn Jarmyn, has enjoyed dogs all her life and described Baxter as a "beautiful companion."

Residents from Rosehaven joined party-goers at Roselin Court on 14 October for Life Care's 60th birthday celebrations.

Chief Executive Officer, Allen Candy, cut the birthday cake with Pete Johnson, winner of this year's footy tipping contest.

The party culminated many months of work with craft groups making garlands and number 60s from a variety of materials.

Recently, the Jones Sisters visited for a day of entertainment with songs from the 1950s and a delightful barbecue lunch prepared by volunteers Chris and Susan.

The fun day concluded with a special presentation by the Chicago Show Band from Prospect.

It was an important fund-raising day with the barbecue generating \$220.00 along with \$120.00 from a plant sale. The money will be used to purchase seeds and other materials for the garden.

The gardening group has also been planning ahead for a stall to raise funds for a bench to be located in the Arte Courtyard.

Melbourne Cup day was another highlight that began with a screening of movie classic National Velvet.

During the afternoon guests enjoyed the races along with club sandwiches, cake, champagne, orange juice and lemonade.

Jean Briggs and John Birchby won prizes for the best hats and Betty Castledine and daughter Leonie Whetter won the Cup sweep.

## PEOPLE & PLACES ... ALDINGA BEACH COURT

"Baxter has a lovely nature and he's like a breath of fresh air when he wanders into the room," Dawn added.

Meanwhile, Aldinga Beach Court is developing a small vineyard as an ornament to the wine industry that has defined the McLaren Vale region as one of Australia's premier grape growing areas.

About 50 vines are being established in an area that can be enjoyed by residents and their families, along with staff and volunteers.

A shady gazebo will be a centrepiece of this flourishing vineyard.

## PEOPLE & PLACES... ROSELIN COURT



Marjorie Rush enjoys singing songs from the 1950s with one of the Jones Girls

# Sharing our caring on the air waves



Peter Goers interviewing Tim Horsnell and Jacinta Robertson



Peter has informative chat at Norman House with Robbie King, Judy Tiddy and Barrie Anderson

## PEOPLE & PLACES ... NORMAN HOUSE

“We wanted listeners to appreciate that there is an alternative to the traditional type of respite care”

Many listeners of popular 891 evenings presenter Peter Goers are regular carers of older South Australians with supporting needs.

Mostly, they are also people who seek to find a quality of life balance between their caring commitments and other interests.

It was pleasing therefore that Peter recently accepted an invitation from Life Care to visit Norman House to meet guests and carers and to gain an appreciation of the unique model of respite care available at this facility.

Tim Horsnell, General Manager of Community Care, and Jacinta Robertson, Community Coordinator of Respite Programs, showed Peter around Norman House before he took the opportunity to interview people who benefit from its services.

“We wanted Peter and his listeners to appreciate that there is an alternative

to the traditional type of respite care,” Jacinta explained.

Peter’s commentary and his interviews with guests and carers on the evening program presented Norman House is a very positive manner.

His invitation was in line with Life Care’s efforts to elevate the media and public profile of its respite services, particularly in relation to the diversity of activities at Norman House and the Out & About Club at Aldinga Beach Court.

“There are wonderful opportunities for regular carers to have some much-needed time to themselves knowing that their loved ones are not only in the care of highly trained and qualified people, but also enjoying themselves through a range of activities based on community interaction,” Jacinta said.

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