

connect

Spring 2020 Newsletter



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A FOREVER HOME FOR JANI

Safe in a haven of respect and love

Your generosity has changed lives and gifted a safe haven for those most in need.

In March we celebrated the success of our capital campaign for **HammondCare Darlinghurst**. Your generosity contributed \$9M and helped bring to life our vision to design and create a residential care home for older people with complex health needs who are experiencing, or at risk of homelessness. The building has been designed using evidence based design principles to create a warm and familiar home like environment for residents.

Offering hope, dignity and safety for older men and women, **HammondCare Darlinghurst** has been purposefully designed with an understanding that the needs of each resident must remain at the heart of every aspect of care. This model of residential aged care fosters trust through choice and collaboration.

Because of your generosity 42 residents can now call this building in the heart of Sydney city their permanent home – one that also provides the nursing and specialised care they need.

Recently discharged from hospital 72-year-old Jani admits if it wasn't for HammondCare she "doesn't

know where she would have been living today." Thanks to your generosity she was able to move into Darlinghurst and 'out of the trouble'.

Safe in her 'forever home' she no longer lives in fear and says her life is very different now. "I regularly needed crisis accommodation so having my own room with my own bathroom is wonderful. I'm happy here and so thankful to the donors, the Foundation and the government."

Suffering with osteoporosis and osteoarthritis Jani worries about falling. Living at **HammondCare Darlinghurst** has changed that. "I like that it's a new building with air conditioning and in the bathroom the floor is made in a good material so that I cannot slip when I shower."

The kitchens on each floor are fabulous but she's not yet up to participating in communal cooking. With choice a major element of care at **HammondCare Darlinghurst** Jani is "very happy that she can decide when to have meals in her room; so much is up to us."

Your love and empathy has helped create a unique community for some of inner Sydney's most vulnerable. Thank you.



Carer Jenna and Jani



Brian (above) and carer Phoebe and Clive (below)

PASSING THE LEADERSHIP BATON

Welcoming Mike Baird AO



Current HammondCare CE Mike Baird, AO (left) with former CE Dr Stephen Judd (right).

On 31 August, after 25 years, Dr Stephen Judd stepped down as Chief Executive of HammondCare, passing the leadership baton to Mr Mike Baird AO.

Stephen said it had been “a great privilege to serve for the past 25 years and I know I leave you in excellent hands.”

“Together with the HammondCare Foundation I remain indebted to you for your dedication to our cause and I know you will continue to champion the HammondCare mission to improve the lives of those in need,” Stephen said.

In welcoming Mike to the role we were honoured to learn that his passion for the work of HammondCare comes from a very personal experience that will no doubt drive great success for the future of HammondCare and the aged care sector more widely.

In his first week in the job, Mike shared with us that while he was preparing to come to HammondCare many people had told him that he was joining a ‘very special’ organisation. He said that “Peter, a long-time family friend had gripped his arm a week

before he died to tell me of the ‘angels’ who were caring for him in his last days. Peter told me ‘I was very lucky to be joining them,’ and what I’ve seen so far is simply breathtaking.”

As demonstrated by Stephen’s outstanding 25-year commitment, Mike says he “has no doubt that by working together to follow and honour the faithful service of Rev Bob Hammond, his remarkable legacy will be extended across our nation as well as internationally.”

“On a daily basis, more than 4,000 staff and over 1,000 volunteers are living out the mission for HammondCare.”

“To comfort families and let them know that caring for their family members, keeping them safe and knowing they are loved is a blessing and an honour.”

“I can think of no greater privilege than to be part of this exceptional team. I look forward to sharing with you more about HammondCare’s ambitious goals and I welcome your partnership on an exciting journey into the future,” Mike said.

WITH GRATITUDE TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

Nourishing those in need

We want to give a special shout-out to all our wonderful Volunteers and thank you for your dedication and devotion.



We are so grateful for your generosity of spirit and strength to nourish and comfort those who reach out to HammondCare in their time of need. And we give a special mention to Katia Liaros (pictured left) and Matthew Columbus who were awarded regional winners for Young Volunteer of the Year!

It is an honour to acknowledge your dedication and tireless efforts in support of our patients, residents and clients. Your selfless contributions during the challenging times faced by those in our care this year have been truly remarkable. You live our mission through your kindness – striving to make life worth living for all those in our care. You have been the light in the lives of those you help. Thank you so much.

It is a very special volunteer who chooses to work at HammondCare where skills and experience are matched to suit appropriate activities, and ongoing training, mentoring and support is provided. There are many ways to volunteer from being a social visitor at aged care homes or visiting clients in their homes, to assisting with meals, recreational activities and social excursions.

If you're interested in volunteering, we'd love to hear from you. Please call 1800 793 399 or email us at volunteer@hammond.com.au

HAMMONDCARE FOUNDATION

Your generosity helps to provide exceptional care to all

At a glance *2020 financial year



28,067
cared for



4,430
dedicated
staff



1,100
volunteers



59
service
locations



783
supporters



\$31.4m
social
dividend

COMPASSIONATE CONNECTIONS

Through bushfires, floods and pandemic . . .
your gifts amaze

The generosity and compassion you have demonstrated during a year of epic challenges is truly inspiring.

We know how many worthy causes have deserved support and we commend you for your continued kindness shown to HammondCare.

Your compassion and support of our COVID-19 Appeal raised over \$110,000. This overwhelming response has allowed us to deliver 600 'Care Packages' to clients receiving in-home support who have struggled with isolation and we have now delivered 105 Samsung Galaxy tablets to residents in HammondCare cottages.

For Peter, who was alone and unable to visit his wife 300km away, access to his new Galaxy tablet allowed him to see her one last time before she died.

As the coronavirus continues to threaten the most vulnerable in our community, it is your generous gestures that continue to make all the difference during lonely and uncertain times.

We recognise that COVID-19 restrictions mean that many in our community have been denied the ability to undertake simple daily tasks such as grocery shopping. Thanks to your generous

support we provided Care Packages to address this. Unable to source many essential supplies like fruit and vegetables, canned soup, and personal care items, many grateful recipients – some whom had not been outside for three months – were overwhelmed to receive their Care Packages. While restrictions may ease in many areas, for older unwell people, this is not the case and activities such as shopping still create anxieties.

Many grateful recipients of these much-welcomed Care Packages took the time to call or write to compliment the care they receive from HammondCare At Home. They wanted to share how overcome they were by such a lovely gesture in response to their circumstances.

We've printed some of their very special messages of appreciation here:

"We would like to give our heartfelt thanks for the wonderful Care Package we received yesterday afternoon from your delightful Melanie. The quality, and the number of items in the Package, was truly overwhelming. We are so grateful to HammondCare and the generous supporters of the HammondCare Foundation, we thank you very much. In tough times like this, your Care Package was a shining light in our lives."



Peter and carer Ryan speaking to Peter's loved ones during the Covid-19 lockdown



"I wanted to say a huge thank you for the Care Package I received from HammondCare. I greatly appreciated it. Full of my favourite goodies. Had so much fun unpacking it and seeing all my favourites. Made me feel very happy that someone out there cares."

- HammondCare At Home client in need

SHIRLEY'S INSPIRATION

A special patient who left more than memories

Shirley Apelt loved a good chat – a career as a telephonist a perfect fit. She liked people and liked being with them. She understood the significance of loving and caring for others. She knew the value of friendship and how to maintain long term relationships.

Originally from Townsville and a country girl at heart, Shirley loved to travel, especially in Australia. Sydney



won her heart and Wollstonecraft became home. A well-known 'local', coffee outings to Crows Nest were often punctuated by friends stopping to chat.

Shirley was 87, an only child and never married. She was a very relational person and had been very active in Probus. During Shirley's last admission

to Greenwich Hospital for palliative care, COVID-19 restrictions limited visitors. Despite receiving frequent phone calls, being alone weighed heavily.

Steve Calder, Senior Pastoral Care Coordinator explains that Pastoral Care is embedded in every aspect of the care provided.

“We develop deep connections with our patients and this helps us understand

the breadth of their individual needs. We listen, we laugh and we cry together. We are ideally placed to share insights with colleagues to ensure that medical, nursing, allied health, welfare, emotional and spiritual care is delivered in ways that best suits each patient.”

Over several of Shirley's admissions Sheila Lins, Social Worker and Steve forged a lasting bond. Conversations left an indelible mark. It was they said “a privilege to have known, loved and cared for Shirley. She was a pure delight, whose positivity influenced the entire care team.”

Passionate about finding unique and creative ways to provide the very best end-of-life care for their patients, just days before Shirley died, Sheila and Steve arranged a small gathering of her friends to attend a 'living funeral'. “Held on a beautiful Saturday afternoon, it was a wonderfully uplifting celebration of Shirley's life and it brought so much joy and closure,” Sheila said.

In our lovely, gentle conversations towards the end, Steve said Shirley “knew she was safe and at home here, with family.”

Several months after her passing the HammondCare Foundation learned that Shirley had made provision in her Will for HammondCare.

“It certainly was a surprise. Deciding what place to bless is no small thing, and we remain truly thankful.”

If you would like to consider leaving a gift in your Will to HammondCare please contact Nina Johnson njohnson@hammond.com.au or 02 8280 8432

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ABN 48 000 026 219

Every donation helps us expand and improve services for the vulnerable and marginalised in our community.

Your gift will make a difference.

Yes – I would like to support the work of HammondCare.



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ST LEONARDS NSW 2065

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- A monthly gift of: \$ _____

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Email _____

I would like to donate this gift by:

- Cheque (please make out to **The HammondCare Foundation**)
- Credit Card Visa MasterCard Amex

Card expiry ____ / ____

Cardholder's name:

□□□□ / □□□□ / □□□□ / □□□□

- Please send me information on leaving a gift in my Will. All gifts over \$2 are tax deductible**

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