



## VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2020, ISSUE 7



Dear Warrigal Volunteers,

2020 has been an extraordinary year not only for Warrigal, but worldwide. We began the year with devastating bushfires, which saw the evacuation of our Bundanoon home, followed by flooding at some Illawarra homes and then a global pandemic. All this in the space of a few short months! The latter led to all our homes having restricted access and Warrigal temporarily standing down our volunteer workforce. Little did we know that restrictions would still be active into the latter part of 2020.

As I reflect upon this year, I have seen the resilience of our staff, volunteers, residents and families at Warrigal. Our volunteers have adapted to restrictions and found other ways to bring joy and show care to our residents.

So many of you have written letters, made phone calls, made gifts for special events (Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day), sewn gowns and masks, knitted blankets, beanies, teddies and scarves, provided activity boxes and delivered goodies to remain connected with our homes. All of which have been gratefully received by our residents and staff.

I have been amazed at how our volunteer team has been able to adapt, grow and continue to deliver services from a distance.

Although we won't be celebrating Christmas at Warrigal as we normally would, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the support and encouragement you have given Warrigal throughout 2020.

I wish you and your families a very happy Christmas and a safe New Year. I look forward to seeing what the new year brings and am positive we can make a brighter 2021 at Warrigal.

Kind wishes,

**MICHELLE CHATE**  
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

# VOLUNTEER UPDATE

Warrigal Administration will be closed over the Christmas period from Thursday 24 December 2020 to Monday 11 January 2021.

As we start moving into a what has been called a 'COVID normal' world, we will see more volunteer roles returning to Warrigal in 2021.

I will be sending a submission to Executive with a number of proposed volunteer roles to return to service under Phase 2. As soon as approval has been given, this will be communicated to all volunteers.

## WELCOME TO WARRIGAL Calwell & Stirling

Warrigal was selected by Bupa Aged Care to take full responsibility for their Calwell and Stirling Residential Care Homes in Canberra. The responsibility for these homes took place on 1 December 2020.

The opportunity to take responsibility for these homes with an additional 144 beds at Calwell and 144 at Stirling is part of our strategy to grow in regions close to our current operations and to ensure the future and longevity of Warrigal.

We are really excited about these new Residential Care Homes and the contribution Warrigal can make with our significant experience in offering high quality aged care services in the Illawarra and Southern Highlands.



Stirling



Calwell



# Volunteer Mandatory Training

As part of volunteers gradually returning back to Warrigal, we are required to complete the following training modules:

- PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) Aged Care Module 5 (Department of Health)
- Infection Control (Warrigal eXplore)
- COVID (Warrigal eXplore)

If you have an email address, a link with instructions and login details was sent to you in September. If you have not received this please check your junk/spam box or contact me [mchate@warrigal.com.au](mailto:mchate@warrigal.com.au) or 0436 806 723 and I will resend this to you.

**NOTE:** for those completing online training, please ensure you use Google Chrome and select EXIT as directed at the completion of your course.

All other Volunteers were sent a paper version of the training to complete and return to me via a Reply Paid Envelope.

Thank you to those who have already completed their training. It has been wonderful to see so many undertake this to ensure we are compliant with new requirements.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me for assistance.



Queanbeyan



## Christmas Gifts

Your Warrigal Christmas gifts are now ready for you to pick up from Reception at your place of volunteering.

For volunteers who work as bus drivers, Warrigal GO, CONNECT-19 or Admin your Christmas gifts can be collected from the Administration Building.

## Latest update on COVID-19

*excerpts taken from letters to families and carers from Craig Smith (Executive Leader, Service Integrated Communities)*

- While we have no community transmission of COVID-19 in NSW, Residential Aged Care Homes are still required to be on alert, and have been advised by the Public Health Unit that there have been other viral illnesses in the community.
- Anyone entering a care home is still required to be screen and temperature checked, making sure their temperature is less than 37.5 degrees Celsius and that they are not waiting on a COVID-19 result, not been caring for anyone that is unwell and not been in any locations deemed to be higher risk areas by NSW Health.
- Wearing of face masks is no longer essential for staff, volunteers or visitors. However, you can still opt to wear them, but it will be an individual choice.

You can read the full letters on our website [warrigal.com.au](http://warrigal.com.au) under latest communication to families.

## Volunteer Contact Details

There are still about 80 volunteers that receive newsletters and information by mail, which can be delayed at this time of year. If you are receiving this newsletter by mail but would prefer to have them emailed, please contact Michelle on 0436 806 723 or email [volunteering@warrigal.com.au](mailto:volunteering@warrigal.com.au).

If you have changed home address, please ensure this is also updated to prevent delays in communication.



*Albion Park Rail*



*Bundanoon*



*Mt Terry*



*Coniston*

# POSITIONS VACANT

**Role:** GARDENER(Mt Warrigal)

**Vacancy:** 2 positions

**Hours:** flexible



**Duties:**

- Assist Property Services with garden maintenance at our Mt Warrigal home.
- Weeding, sweeping, cleaning outdoor areas.
- Planting of seeds and plants.
- Watering of gardens and pots.

**Essential:**

- Completed relevant volunteer training or willingness to complete (PPE Module 5 (Department of Health), Infection Control (eXplore), COVID (eXplore).

**Role:** BUS DRIVER

**Hours:** 4-6 hours



**Duties:**

- Drive customers to and from their home to various destinations as scheduled by the Village Community Coordinator or Service Manager.
- Assist customers under staff supervision.
- Police Check (*paid for by Warrigal*)
- Report vehicle maintenance issues to the Fleet Officer.

**Essential:**

- LR licence
- Driving Assessment with ABC Driving School (*paid for by Warrigal*)
- Completed relevant volunteer training or willingness to complete (PPE Module 5 (Department of Health), Infection Control (eXplore), COVID (eXplore).

If you are interested in any of the advertised positions, please contact Michelle Chate, Volunteer Coordinator.



Mt Warrigal



Shell Cove



Goulburn



Warilla



Warrigal Social