

# COMMUNITY UPDATE

March 31, 2022

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## Next wave of COVID-19

The focus on COVID-19 is once again intensifying, with future modelling indicating the next wave of COVID-19 will hit in April and May this year. The best way you can prepare for this is to:

- **Get vaccinated and get your booster shots.**
- **Wear a face mask when it's required - unless you have a lawful exemption. It's also ok to choose to wear one in settings where this is not mandated.**
- **Stay 1.5 metres away from people you don't live with.**
- **Open doors and windows when possible and avoid poorly ventilated spaces.**
- **Get tested and stay home if you feel unwell.**
- **Practise good hygiene and wash or disinfect your hands often.**
- **Check in using QR codes where required.**

## Expect a test at UCC

Everyone who presents to our Urgent Care Centres (UCC) in Ouyen and Sea Lake will now be COVID-19 tested using RATs (rapid antigen tests), depending on the clinical urgency of the situation. This is in line with the approach taken by Ambulance Victoria (i.e. everyone is COVID-19 tested on transfer between health services). This is a very important strategy in managing COVID-19 in our facilities and within our communities.

## RATs required when visiting aged care

All visitors to aged care will now be tested for COVID-19 using RATs. This is in line with Victoria's pandemic health orders. MTHCS has RATs available for visitors.

When visiting residents in our aged care facilities, please remember:

- **To phone ahead of your visit so we can assist and support appropriately.**
- **Visitors can only visit our aged care facilities once each day. This is in line with Victoria's pandemic health orders.**
- **To follow all COVID-19 infection control measures. Our residents are highly vulnerable to infection and we need your help to protect them.**



*Sea Lake residents and staff had a great time admiring traditional garments from Nepal, which were brought in by staff member Susma Malakar, in celebration of Harmony Day. Pictured (top left) Teyana Barton, daughter of staff member Bianca McCormack, modelling the lovely clothes along with (top right) staff member Tamara Allan; and (bottom) residents Betty Wight (left) and Ethel Prange (right) inspect the garment modelled by Director of Nursing Leanne Adcock (centre).*

## Mystery grain donation

We would like to acknowledge a donation received recently via the sale of grain at Grainflow Sea Lake. We have an NGR card at Grainflow Sea Lake for growers to donate grain for sale on our behalf, with all funds received dedicated to supporting the care provided to residents and patients at the Sea Lake Service Centre. Unfortunately the payment information does not identify the donor so we can't thank you personally, but we appreciate you taking the opportunity to support our services in this way.

## Employment opportunities

**MTHCS has a number of non-gender specific roles available. At MTHCS we define our expectations and are accountable for our actions.**

### NEW People and Culture Wellbeing Officer (Ouyen) Full Time/Part Time negotiable

The People and Culture Wellbeing Officer is responsible for supporting the People and Culture team to drive health and wellbeing initiatives within the workplace, including promoting the Gender Equality Act

### Healthcare Workers (Pattinson House, Ouyen) Casual

MTHCS is always looking for enthusiastic healthcare workers to join the team. Compassion for our residents and team work is vital.

**MTHCS is an equal opportunity employer. Visit [www.mthcs.vic.gov.au/employment](http://www.mthcs.vic.gov.au/employment) for further information about these and other exciting roles.**

**HOW TO APPLY:** Provide your resume with cover letter to [payroll@mthcs.vic.gov.au](mailto:payroll@mthcs.vic.gov.au) or People & Culture, PO Box 130, Ouyen 3490.



*Pictured (top): Resident Myra Clohesy enjoying a quiet moment with Dasher; and (above) Pat Prater (left) and Betty Wight (right) were smitten with baby Milla, who belongs to staff member Tiarnae Hall (currently on maternity leave).*