

Outlook Gardens Newsletter

Winter 2016

Opening of the new Building

At our Annual General Meeting in November 2011 we first raised the need to expand our facility to provide more accommodation for residents needing high level care.

In July 2013 the Department of Health and Ageing approved an extra 36 bed licences as well as a zero interest loan. Site preparation and construction commenced early September 2014.

After many years of planning and preparation we thank the Lord that the new extension has been completed and the occupancy certificate was received in October 2015.

Our official opening took place on the 2nd April this year.

Our migrant pioneers had a vision and hope 45 years ago when they started the Association for Christian Senior Citizens' home. Since then through **labour** and **endurance** by many people over many years this facility is where it is now.

We thank God for this blessing in providing these facilities and continue to pray that we may provide for our ageing community in a Christian environment.

The text read out at our 2011 AGM

‘We continually remember before our God and Father your **work** produced by faith, your **labour** prompted by love and your **endurance** inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ’.

Thessalonians 1:3



Mr. Bill Krins, Board Member and past Chairman unveiling our plaque



Chairman—Mr. Harold Dykstra addressing the visitors



‘Praise God from whom all blessings flow’

Pastorally Speaking

A warm welcome to all who have recently moved into Outlook Gardens – both the Aged Care Facility and the village, we trust that you are slowly settling into your new home and making new friends and neighbours in our community.

We also extend our welcome to all respite residents to the Aged Care Facility and hope you are enjoying your stay us.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to all who have been struggling with ill health, may God's grace continue to comfort and strengthen you through this challenging time.

Our deepest condolences go out to families and friends of Ida Pap, Stien Ploegsma, Peter Jankovic and Kathleen Brown who have passed away over the months of March, April and May. Our continual prayers and love go out to all of you in your time of grief and loss. May you all be comforted by God's presence and love.

Chew Nang

Devotion:

Isn't it better to have sight than to be blind?

Does God exist?

Open your eyes and see...

Just because we don't see doesn't mean God doesn't exist...

Just because we have our eyes open doesn't mean we can see...

Just because we have our eyes open and don't see...

Doesn't mean God does not exist...

What does this mean then...Spiritual Blindness!

There is a story in the bible that explain what spiritual blindness is. The story is about a man born physically blind and lived for a number of decades in blindness. One day, he met Jesus and the Son of God opened and healed his blindness. The man gained sight and lived to testify this miracle... and was later questioned by the community and religious people – who could see physically but were spiritually blind.

Is this your son?' they asked. 'Is this the one you say was born blind? How is it that now he can see?' John 9:19

'We know he is our son', the parents answered, 'and we know he was born blind. But how he can see now, or who opened his eyes, we don't know. Ask him. John 9:20-21

'... One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!' John 9:32-33

... 'Nobody has ever heard of opening the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.' John 9:32-33

We are all spiritual beings...therefore we need to activate our spiritual sight... how do we activate our spiritual sight? ... Faith!

What is faith?

Jesus gave His life on the cross for **everyone** on this earth. He is the Son of God John 3:16 and He has come to give life, love and light to all who believes in Him.

Blessings in Christ!

Chew Nang

**I AM THE LIGHT
OF THE WORLD.**
If you follow me,
**YOU WON'T HAVE
TO WALK IN DARKNESS...**
- JOHN 7: 12

From the Residential Services Manager's Desk

As our facility has expanded and we are expecting more Care Recipients to move in we have been reviewing some of the contracts we currently have in place.



Vision Food

Our Contract with Vision Food who look after our kitchen has been reviewed and updated.

Nation Wide

The contract with Nation Wide who do the cleaning in the facility has also been reviewed and updated. Branko, Diana and Lindsay are our current cleaners.

Some of our friendly kitchen staff—
Chef David with Kamrun, Niluta, and Sarojine

Podiatrist

We have secured a new Podiatry Service with Aged Care Podiatry. Upcoming dates of their visits are: June 28th, August 9th, September 20th and November 1st. All Care Recipients will be seen to by the Podiatry Service on these dates so no appointments will be necessary. If however you are planning to take a Care Recipient out on any of these dates please let reception know so a suitable time for their visit can be organised. Cost of a visit is \$24.00—this cost will be borne by the facility for care recipients who are high level care.

Room Keys

Some of our low level Care Recipients have keys for their rooms. Can I please remind you that these keys are for the use of Care Recipients only and not for family members/friends to come in and out of the facility.

Zero Tolerance Against Violence Policy

Work Safe recently visited the facility. On their advice we have introduced a new policy—'Zero Tolerance against Violence'. This policy has been developed and a copy of the contract will be distributed to all Care Recipients.

Clothes Labelling

Our lost property basket continues to overflow so I am again reminding you all that any new clothing or linen purchased for Care Recipients needs to be labelled. Please leave items with reception staff.

Staff

We are currently in the process of looking for and interviewing potential staff. We are particularly looking for Enrolled Nurses who are able to do night shift.

Two of our staff members are currently on maternity leave and we have another four staff who will taking maternity leave in the near future. I would like to congratulate Bernice on the birth of a baby girl Betsy and wish Briony all the best as she awaits the arrival of her baby.

There are also seven staff members who are currently studying and will need to go on placements

Inna

Branka has been doing an excellent job keeping our facility clean for 13 years.



Aged Care Happening's

Our Men's Group has recently taken over what was the library, and making it into a games room. Please watch this space for a new name for this room. The room is being refurbished, walls are being painted and hopefully new seating and window coverings will be arriving soon. These improvements are being funded through fundraising efforts.



One of the Activities of the men's group has been to make bird feeders . The photo above was taken in the Bunning's Car Park where the men went for morning tea and to purchase supplies for the project.



Bird Feeders being built and painted

We would love some Volunteers to help run small groups of Billiards,
Chess, or Carrom



A feature of the
Men's Room is our new
Pool Table



Anderson and Alf enjoying the
Carrom Board donated
by Lily Loon



A blast from the past
Mieke modelling
underwear when she while working at the facility

From the General Manager's Desk



It was very pleasing that quite a number of people attended the 'official opening' of our new section and it was good to hear very positive comments from all who attended.

As you can imagine we are continually having new care recipients moving in on a regular basis, as well as employing new staff to cater for the increase of care recipients

However we still have vacancies, so if you know people requiring permanent placement or respite care please refer them to our facility—contact reception on 9795 7566. We would be pleased to arrange a tour of the facility as well as explain the financial costs to obtain permanent care

Men's Area

As noted in this newsletter we are thankful to supporters of our association who anonymously donated the new billiard table and equipment for the men's group and for family members when they visit.

'till next time—Have a safe warm winter Corey van Garderen—General Manager

20 Years of Faithful Service

The Board is pleased that our General Manager Mr. Corey van Garderen has now been with us for 20 years. We wish to congratulate Corey with this milestone achievement. During these 20 years we have seen 'Outlook Gardens' grow from a village of 51 Independent Living Units and a 36 bed hostel to an additional 25 hostel rooms in 2004, and another 34 rooms in 2016, making a total of 95 aged care rooms.

We are grateful to Corey for his significant contribution to the running of the complete complex, and the planning and building of this aged care extensions, and trust that the Lord will continue to bless us with his able management for many more years.

On behalf of the Board—Bill Krins— Vice Chairman





"The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched – they must be felt with the heart" –
Helen Keller

Wilma Van Brussel is a familiar face and a name to many of us at Outlook Gardens. She has been volunteering with leisure and lifestyle department for years. Let's get to know the person behind the familiar, friendly face.

Tell us a bit about yourself...

I was born in Delft, Netherlands in 1924. My parents were Fredrik and Heily. I Married Willem Van Brussel in 1947. We were then blessed with four daughters and a son.

How would you describe yourself as a child?

I would say I was an ordinary child. I enjoyed school very much. Unfortunately my mother passed away when I was ten years old. I grew up with twelve siblings, we were close. We keep in touch to this date. We had an organ at home, as most families did those days, we used to sing as a family at night.

What are your interests?

Reading, I read a lot. I love gardening although I can't do much of it at the moment. I used to travel with my family. I also enjoy nature and outdoors.

What lessons has life taught you?

I would say that God is with us, we can trust in him. We don't know what the future holds for us but if we trust in God everything will be ok.

What is your proudest moment in life?

My wedding day! Willem and I grew up in the same area and went to the same church, where I met him. We got married in 1947 and had wonderful children that I'm very proud of. Wilma shows me the photo book her family had put together for her 90th Birthday. A photo book dedicated to a mum, oma, oma-oma, filled with photos with her 16 grandchildren, their spouses, and 37 adorable great grand children. Wilma is truly blessed with a loving family.

How long have you been volunteering with Outlook Gardens?

A long time! I visited, with my husband, the residents of the village in 1970s. When the aged care centre was opened in 1985 we started visiting the residents there as well. My husband was a pastor in the Dandenong Reformed Church. I continued visiting residents after my husband passed away. When I visit residents we often sing together, mostly songs we learnt in Sunday school as children. I feel its very meaningful to them. I believe we never forget what we learn as children.

Any tips for keeping so fit and active at your age?

I aim to walk half an hour at least three times week. I often walk with a group of friends.

Advice for future generations...

Life can be difficult at times so take care of people around you. Make sure that they don't feel lonely. That way you'll never feel lonely. Never be selfish, there is always someone worse off than you in the world so you always have an opportunity to help others. Treasure your family, its the greatest blessing in life, she adds with a smile.

We thank Wilma for the love and joy she brings to our residents. We wish her health, happiness and strength to continue her wonderful contributions to the society.

If you would like to join our wonderful team of volunteers please contact Lifestyle coordinator Danni or our friendly receptionists Adie or Hilda.