

THE

# Difference

CALOUNDRA MAY 2023



## Grand opening!

Our doors might have (technically) been open for months now as we've slowly, and carefully, built up our resident population ensuring every new member has a good chance to find their feet. But we thought, why not throw a 'Grand opening' event - any excuse for a party, right? The food was wonderful, the decorations added ambience and the smiles showed just how much we all love calling Palm Lake Care Caloundra home.



### Service Manager's note

As the leaves start to change and the temperature starts to drop, we welcome the month of May with open arms. This month, we have a range of exciting events and activities planned to keep our residents engaged and entertained. We will be celebrating Mother's Day - a day to recognise the special bond between mothers and their children. For our more active residents, we will be organising outdoor activities such as gardening, walking groups and picnics. With the beautiful weather of autumn in full swing, there is no better time to enjoy the great outdoors. Lastly, we want to remind our residents and families that the health and safety of our community is always our top priority. We continue to follow all government guidelines and best practices to keep everyone safe during this challenging time. We are grateful for your support and commitment to our aged caring community, and we look forward to another great month together. **Ushani Jayawardhana, Service Manager**



## Clinical Team notes

The weeks just seem to be flying by! We have welcomed many more faces to our community across both staff and resident populations.

For day-to-day needs, clinical questions or general queries, please reach out to the registered staff on duty in your neighbourhood. The registered staff members are those who give out medication. There is one registered staff member in each community who oversees the carers and provides clinical care each morning and evening. We also have a registered nurse on overnight as well as care staff in each neighbourhood.

Did you know that April was Parkinson's Awareness Month? Parkinson's is a neurodegenerative disorder that affects the nervous system and those parts of the body controlled by nerves.

On average, 32 Australians are diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease every day — that's more than one person per hour and we have several residents in our community living with Parkinson's.

**Rebecca Burgess,**  
Clinical manager



## Meet your Lifestyle Coordinator: Matt

We would like to introduce our new Lifestyle Coordinator at Palm Lake Care Caloundra, Matt Whiney.

Matt comes to us from Michigan in the United States, and he is working on becoming a citizen of Australia. He worked for the Walt Disney Company for three years and loves to do his Mickey Mouse impressions or sing to make anyone whom he meets smile and laugh. Matt is married to an Australian and they met while he was working at Walt Disney World.

Matt says his passions include, working here with us at Palm Lake Care, singing and helping others enjoy life to the fullest.

Matt brings a lot of new energy and love to the Lifestyle Coordinator role, and we find he is a perfect fit within our team here. He is open to any and all feedback and suggestions on how to make this community even better.



## Meet your neighbour:

We would like to introduce one of our new residents, Sylvia, who came to Australia from New Zealand in the year 2000. Sylvia came out with her first husband and they bought a house in Marcoola, and she started working as a carer. Sylvia had been a carer in New Zealand for 19 years and she wanted to continue in the field. Sadly, Sylvia's first husband passed away too soon, but she decided to stay in Australia and become a citizen. Two years after her husband passed, she went to a party and met her second husband, Bill, and they ended up getting married two years later.

Sylvia became his full-time carer after about five years, because he was an army man and needed care sooner than expected. Sylvia then retired at 65 to look after Bill and they had a great time together living in Brightwater. The couple traveled around Australia for a few months and when Bill passed away, Sylvia felt lonely and decided to go into care. She walked into the front doors of Palm Lake Care and says she was just blown away because she had never seen anything like it. Sylvia says she loves her life here and that all of the staff and carers are so nice and loving. And we are happy to have you here with us, Sylvia.



### KEY LOCAL PERSONNEL

**Service Manager:** Ushani Jayawardhana  
caloundracaresm@pallake.com.au **Customer Experience:** Kelly Roberts  
**Clinical Manager:** Bec Burgess caloundracarecm@pallake.com.au  
**Administration Officers:** Melissa Ryan and Simona Cinelli  
**Lifestyle Coordinator:** Matt Whiney **Maintenance:** Colin Ashton  
**Hospitality Team Leader:** Lisa Wilkinson

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