

Newsletter: December 2020

As 2020 draws to a close we can reflect upon it as a year of unusual and unexpected challenges; COVID-19 and the ensuing lockdown being a defining feature. Never-the-less there has been quite a lot going on at Community Care this year and still so much to celebrate.

The health, safety and wellbeing of our members, volunteers, staff and wider community is always been at the forefront of our minds and this year we found ourselves in the unusual position of some of our activities safe to continue for a period of time. Over the nation wide lock down our essential services partnerships were maintained and the ability of, people to collect their personal hygiene supplies from our location was even more important than ever. Our Community Workers were in demand and continued to provide support remotely. Quite a number of our regular Meals on Wheels delivery drivers were unable to continue over the Lockdown period due to their own age or health status related to Covid, but in true community spirit a number of others put their hands up to step in and fill the shifts and this essential service was able to continue also.

Sadly, the decision was made not to hold the Annual Spring Fling this year. This was due to be the 10th anniversary of this wonderful community event, which is our principal fundraiser, which made the cancellation sting somewhat more. But, once again looking to the positive we have been lucky enough to benefit from some local community initiatives such as "Christmas on the Green" and the Selwyn Motorfest.

While we continue on with vigilance it has been much celebrated that our groups are now all up and running again, albeit with some changes to ensure we are following all the relevant guidance. It's great that our community are back to keeping fit and connected though the walking, exercise and friendship groups. One of the key realisations for many this year has been recognising the important of face-to-face interactions and connections with others and this has reflected in the enthusiasm that the re-start of the groups has been met with.

In October we had the please pleasure of honouring one of our longstanding volunteers Mrs Isabel Moore for her 43 Years of volunteering with Meals on Wheels with the naming of a room in our community care building "The Isabel Moore Room". Community Care relies heavily on volunteers, who work tirelessly behind the scenes. Whether it be writing funding applications, selling raffle tickets, hosting friendship groups, delivering meals on wheels or one of the myriad of other roles fulfilled by volunteers - you are the life blood of our organization. So, from both us here at Community care, and on behalf of the community you serve we say "thank you".

Community Care will close for the Christmas break this year from lunchtime on Wednesday 23rd December and will re-open 5th January 2021.

We wish you all a lovely summer and look forward to what 2021 will bring.