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COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic

Throughout 2020, our aged care residents at Dianella and Caladenia, like so many other aged care residents, did their best to make the most of lockdown due to COVID-19.

Our residents took the opportunity to learn new skills, interact with each other, undertake activities and many residents kept in contact with family and friends through phone calls, skype and window visits. Some of our residents even celebrated special occasions including 80th, 90th as well as a special 100th birthday.

After such a long time not being able to see family and friends or get out and about, our residents were delighted with the opportunity to receive their COVID vaccinations, just in time for Easter!

Goulburn Valley (GV) Health Public Health Unit (PHU) outreach team travelled to Dianella and Caladenia to administer the AstraZeneca vaccine and will return in 12 weeks' time to ensure our residents receive their second vaccinations.

Dianella resident, Betty Winnell said she was expecting more pomp and ceremony during the vaccination process – “I thought there'd have been

bells ringing and people singing and balloons and streamers”. Although not the carnival atmosphere they may have been expecting, all residents were very glad to do their small part in helping to protect each other and the community.

The Kilmore District Health (KDH) COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic has commenced vaccinating our 1a and 1b staff who are eligible to receive the AstraZeneca vaccine. The clinic will continue to vaccinate our front-line workers and we are working under the guidance of GV Health and the State and Federal Governments in planning to vaccinate the community. Information on community bookings will be made available across a wide range of areas including our website, social media pages and local news and radio.

Having the COVID-19 vaccine helps protect our more vulnerable family, friends and the community. The more people who receive the vaccine will help to lessen the burden on health services in the event of an outbreak, enabling them to care for patients with other health conditions.

CEO Update

Welcome to the autumn edition of Community Connect.

As the new CEO at Kilmore District Health, I have received a fantastic welcome from everyone, which I am very grateful for.

As we progress through 2021, the focus has moved from operating in a COVID-19 pandemic to looking ahead with the commencement of the vaccine rollout, locally, nationally and internationally. There is further information regarding the vaccine rollout in the cover article.

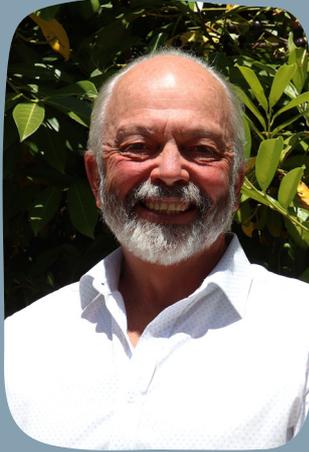
Although a major focus is on the vaccine rollout, we continue to operate a successful health organisation with the focus over the next few months being on –

- Working with GV Health as our region's 'hub' for the vaccine rollout
- Increasing telehealth capabilities
- Implementing the rebrand with our new name, internally and externally
- Welcoming our volunteers back to the organisation

This is an exciting time for Kilmore District Health as we continue to provide the best care possible to our community.

Regards,

David



Be prepared for Flu season!

This year, more than ever, getting your flu vaccination is imperative to helping reduce the spread of influenza and keeping yourself well.



HEADACHE

The flu has symptoms that can be mild to severe and include high fever, runny nose, sore throat, muscle and joint pain, headache, coughing and feeling tired.



FEVER

Unfortunately, a lot of flu symptoms are similar to COVID-19 (Coronavirus) symptoms.



SORE THROAT

To help reduce the spread of both the flu and COVID-19, it is imperative that good hand hygiene is performed as well as covering your nose and mouth when you sneeze and/or cough.

If you are feeling unwell, you should see your doctor as soon as possible.



Throughout 2020, our volunteers were unable to continue the valuable work they perform to help our staff, patients and residents. We took the opportunity to revise the volunteer program prior to our volunteers being able to return. Our volunteers will have roles

Helping Hands Return

descriptions and dedicated days and times allocated which allows us to ensure our volunteers are suited to the roles they enjoy most as well as allowing our staff to support them in their preferred roles.

The Opportunity Shop has reopened and have been working on ensuring the shop is COVID safe for the community and helping to raise funds for Kilmore District Health (KDH).

The KDH Auxiliary Group are working on their Mother's Day raffle to raise funds for the organisation. Keep a look out on our website for further information and for the Auxiliary ladies who will be selling tickets outside Coles in the week leading up to Mother's Day.

Everyone, Meet David

We kicked off 2021 by welcoming our new CEO, David.

David has over 26 years' experience as a manager and leader within the healthcare sector, predominantly in regional Western Australia and more recently in metropolitan South Australia. As a private sector service and facility planning consultant, David has also had the opportunity to work in the Northern Territory and in New Zealand.

David's most recent role was Clinical Program Delivery Manager in the Central Adelaide Local Health Network (CALHN), with executive responsibility for 16 different health programs/services across seven Adelaide sites. David also prepared and led CALHN's Infectious Diseases response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Prior to this, David was Executive Director Mental Health and then Regional Director for WA Country Health

Service in the Great Southern Region based in the regional town of Albany.

David is a Registered Nurse with a Certificate of Mental Health Nursing and holds a Bachelor of Nursing and Master of Public Health from Edith Cowan University plus is a Fellow Australasian College of Health Service Management. He also has extensive experience in strategic planning and service planning and has led several major health service capital works redevelopments. Throughout his career, David has had operational oversight for acute care, aged care, mental health, community health and public health services.

David and his wife Kerrie have made the move to Victoria to be closer to family and they are looking forward to calling regional Victoria home.

What's in a Name?

You will have noticed we have been rolling out our new name and brand over the last few months. The name change was important as we are now more than just a hospital.

The rollout has been undertaken by our internal staff who have done a wonderful job in updating internal documents as well as our stationary, website and publications.

Although the organisation will always be known to many in the community as Kilmore Hospital, over the years, the organisation has grown significantly and

provides a range of services including Aged Care, Urgent Care and Outpatient facilities. The 'Kilmore Hospital' is one part of our organisation, with the name change we now incorporate all of our services and ensure all staff feel part of the organisation as a whole.

Kilmore District Health is proud of its history and takes pride in the services we offer to the community whilst ensuring it's success and contribution continues well into the future.

Making Room For You

As part of the establishment of our COVID-19 vaccination clinic we have been making some changes around the organisation to ensure we have the space and facilities available to support the volume of people coming into our grounds.

We are in the process of creating a new staff car park near the main entrance of the Health Service. This 28 space car park will take some of the pressure off the Outpatients car park and will make room for more community members coming to get their COVID-19 vaccination.

This new car park will provide better access and flow in and around our Health Service.





Who Are You?

Rebecca van de Paverd

COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic Project Manager

What does your typical day look like?

There is no typical day as the Covid-19 vaccination clinic is very dynamic and can rapidly change direction each day. I move between recruitment, attending meetings, reports, training, vaccine stock management, reviewing procedures and lots of communication with many different stakeholders at KDH and across the Hume region whom we are working with in the COVID-19 vaccination rollout.

How did you find yourself at KDH?

I wanted a job without a 2+ hour commute each day and to work in the same location that I lived in and also where my children go to kinder and school. The stars aligned and it has been the best decision I've made. Kilmore and KDH is the perfect fit for me and my family.

What is the best thing about working at KDH?

The people I work with, the services we provide and the sense of community that comes with working at Kilmore District Health.

What activities do you enjoy on your days off?

Spending time with my family, being an Aunty, Lakers basketball, reading and podcasts.

What have we been up to?

New Staff Members



31

Dianella Residents COVID-19 Vaccinated



29

Procedures Performed



428

Caladenia Residents COVID-19 Vaccinated



24

District Nurse Home Visits



723

Babies Born



51

Outpatient Appointments



1,589

Urgent Care Presentations



3,348

Data from 1 December to 28 February 2021 included in these figures

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