



Tuesday 23rd March, 2021

Dear friends,

This letter follows my letter of 16th March, 2021 and includes an important update about the priority 1a COVID-19 vaccination program. As usual we are sharing this information with our residents and their representatives, our workforce including our volunteers and contractors, our company members, self-care residents, general practices, and the wider Southern Highlands community.

Resident vaccination dates – Harbison Burradoo

We have been notified that residents at Burradoo will be offered COVID-19 vaccination from 8am on Saturday 10th April 2021. The 2nd dose will be organised for Saturday 1st May 2021. Note that both doses are required for effective vaccination against COVID-19. The vaccine will be administered by Sonic Clinical Services on behalf of the Australian Government.

If you are a Burradoo resident, or resident representative or substitute decision-maker, and have any questions or concerns about the program please contact Leah O'Regan, Clinical Care Manager, in-person, on 02 4868 6200 during office hours, or by email leah.o'regan@harbisoncare.org.au

Resident vaccination dates – Harbison Moss Vale

We have been notified that residents at Moss Vale will be offered COVID-19 vaccination from 8am on Saturday 24th April 2021. The 2nd dose will be organised for Saturday 15th May 2021. Note that both doses are required for effective vaccination against COVID-19. The vaccine will be administered by Sonic Clinical Services on behalf of the Australian Government.

If you are a Moss Vale resident, or resident representative or substitute decision-maker, and have any questions or concerns about the program please contact Edsalyn Soon, Clinical Care Manager, in-person, on 02 4868 6200 during office hours, or by email edsalyn.soon@harbisoncare.org.au

At this stage we understand that only aged care residents will be vaccinated on these dates. As you know, phase 1b of the national vaccine rollout has commenced and our self-care residents can now access the vaccine through selected general practices.

Our vaccination task force is well organised, and most residents have already provided consent. We will contact support persons who have registered to plan for them to be with their resident(s) on the day. Please note that normal routines may be disrupted by the vaccination program, and we ask that routine visits and social outings be deferred to ensure that the day runs smoothly, and nobody misses out on their opportunity to be vaccinated.

We remind you that the Government has published COVID-19 vaccination information for residential aged care which can be accessed using this link <https://www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines/information-for-aged-care-providers-workers-and-residents-about-covid-19-vaccines/covid-19-vaccine-information-for-aged-care-residents-and-people-receiving-in-home-aged-care>

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There is always a risk that the schedule will change due to circumstances beyond our control. We will keep you informed of any changes and hope to announce dates for Moss Vale residents soon.

Harry Varvaressos and Peter Davis

Harry Varvaressos has held the role of Director of Nursing at Moss Vale and Burradoo. After three years he left Harbison in 2016 to start a successful home care business, Southern Highlands Home Care, then returned to Harbison in late 2017 to oversee the successful re-accreditation of Moss Vale in 2018. In 2019 Harry moved to Burradoo where he led the successful re-accreditation of our nursing home and hostel and opened the new dementia service in early 2020.

Harry was due to step down from Harbison but agreed to extend his tour because of the pandemic. His family is in Sydney and it is time for him to take up a role closer to home. Harry will be missed by everyone at Harbison, but we will see him from time to time when he visits his home care team who will continue to operate from Burradoo. We wish Harry and his family every happiness and thank him for his incredible commitment over a long period.

Peter Davis first worked with Harbison on an aged care research project in 2017. Peter's keen mind and breadth of clinical and pastoral experience was obvious, and when the project concluded we took the opportunity to invite him to join Harbison to lead our pastoral care and wellbeing team. Peter has played a key role supporting many residents through the trials of the past year and played a key role in the successful Butterfly project at Alpine. He has made a significant contribution to pastoral care at Harbison and championed the proper resourcing of non-clinical care to ensure we meet the social, psychological, and spiritual needs of our residents.

Peter's role inherently carries a heavy personal burden, and we hope Peter and his family enjoy a well-earned rest from the day-to-day needs of Harbison. I am grateful to him for his steady and insightful counsel and congratulate him on setting the example and achieving much with very limited resources.

Thank you for reading this letter. We look forward to having our resident vaccination program underway and hope our workforce will also be offered their vaccination soon so we can keep everyone safe.

Your sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Cochran', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David Cochran
Chief Executive Officer