

Wednesday, 21 December 2022

Dear friends,

Today is the longest day (Summer solstice) of what has sometimes felt like the longest year, and this will be the last letter before Christmas. It follows my letter of Thursday, 15 December 2022. I will keep it brief. As usual, we are sharing this information widely, so everyone has the same information at the same time.

# Harbison Moss Vale COVID-19 outbreak - update

The outbreak which started on 17 November 2022 is now in its fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) week with 47 confirmed cases, or almost 40% of residents. While this may appear concerning, the outbreak has been very well managed without the need for a lockdown, and we only have four (4) active cases today. One unvaccinated resident has been transferred to hospital due to deterioration, but the other cases are doing well with anti-vital treatment.

As expected, the outbreak will continue through Christmas and the New Year. I hosted a Family Zoom meeting today and will host the next meeting on:

Date: Wednesday, 28 December 2022

Time: 11am

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85111421204?pwd=SmtXaUJCUDYwbXc4bTBBUStwWFA4QT09

### **Christmas-New Year visiting hours**

Normal visiting hours are 10am to 4pm, except for Partners-in-Care who can visit anytime in accordance with their care plan.

Extended visiting hours from 9am to 6pm will apply on public holidays as follow:

- Christmas Day Sunday, 25 December 2022
- Boxing Day Monday, 26 December 2022
- Tuesday, 27 December 2022
- Wednesday, 28 December 2022
- New Year's Day Sunday, 1 January 2023
- Monday, 2 January 2023
- Australia Day Thursday, 26 January 2023

#### Three Cows Café is closed for Christmas-New Year

The café at Moss Vale will close on Christmas Eve and reopen on Tuesday, 3 January 2023, so the café team can enjoy a well-earned holiday.

### Café Charlotte is closed for Christmas-New Year

The café at Burradoo will be closed on the public holidays listed above and from Monday, 2 January – Sunday, 15 January 2023, reopening on Monday 16 January 2023. We wish Russell, Sharon, and Lisa a happy holiday.

# A final reminder - hand hygiene

I know, you've heard it before. But the importance of hand hygiene cannot be overstated. Please be mindful when you are at Harbison about using the alcohol-based sanitiser which is available near all high-touch points throughout the home. Use it before you touch e.g., door handles, elevator buttons, pin pads, touchscreens etc, <u>and</u> use it after. High-touch points are high risk for transmission of virus from one person to another, but if everyone follows the standard precaution then this risk can almost be eliminated. Thank you!

And thank you for reading this letter. I wish you and yours a happy end to the year, and all the best for the New Year. My thanks to our volunteers, including our Board of directors, staff, contractors and the community of health professionals who support our residents throughout the year (including public holidays!). Thanks too to all the families and representatives who have stood with us through thick and thin as we navigate the everchanging public health guidelines and accelerating aged care reforms.

We can all reflect on a successful collaboration this year and look forward to an even brighter 2023.

Yours sincerely,

**David Cochran** 

**Chief Executive Officer**