

PRESIDENTS REPORT 2025

Welcome and thank you for attending the 2025 Annual General Meeting of Yass Valley Aged Care Limited.

Last year when writing my first report I was reminded of our Vision and its importance in guiding the board, senior management, staff and volunteers in everything we do. Keeping focused on our Mission and Vision statements as we go about the day-to-day business of managing the organisation is critical to keeping our five-star rating and maintaining excellence in every aspect of our operations.

This year has seen a most welcome change in our relationship with Yass Aged Care Foundation Inc. In the past Yass Valley Aged Care Limited and the Foundation have operated independently of each other, each with their own focus. We have been very grateful for their generous donations and during some particularly difficult times we were only able to survive with their support. In what represents a fundamental change in our relationship, the Foundation is now working actively with us to develop five year strategic plans that will allow us to plan and implement continuous improvements in our operations. The Foundation is also supporting us in the planning for a Memory Support Unit (MSU) by providing the money for planning and development approvals. Furthermore, the Foundation has also promised a further contribution towards the construction of the unit. We know there is a strong demand for such a unit as we have commissioned a report that demonstrates such a need. That need is present now and will grow in the future. An MSU will enable us to further and better service the aged population of Yass.

These changes have been driven by the Foundation's President with the support of its entire board. On behalf of our board, I would like to thank the Foundation for such innovative and forward thinking. It promises to change the way we operate for the better. I would also like to acknowledge the generous support the Foundation has provided this year. In addition to the money for the development and planning approvals for the MSU mentioned above, the Foundation donated a further \$450,000.00. This has enabled us to make several major upgrades, which include, amongst other things, the provision of new beds which are being rolled out over twelve months and a new nurse call system that will result in better care.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our many hard working volunteers who quietly go about their business enhancing the welfare of the residents. They do this through the monthly morning teas, which are much more than just tea and coffee but home cooked food and socialising. Much work goes into the Christmas raffle and street stall which raises money for gifts to residents and the happy hours. The Christmas celebration and raffle draw are ever popular. Without the efforts of these volunteers the residents would have less social interaction to look forward to. You do a great job and we thank you.

We have a hard working board that continues to set the strategic direction of the organisation. All of our board members make a contribution not just by attending monthly board meetings but putting effort in various activities that best suit their talents and

expertise. We have three sub-committees of the board that deal with Future Directions, Audit and Risk and Personnel and Remuneration. Each of these committees work hard to deal with its area of focus and reports back to the board. I don't want to single out any committee but 2025 has been a busy year for everyone. I would like to thank the Vice President, Michael Walker, for his continuing support which is considerable and valuable. My job would be a lot harder without it.

To achieve a five-star rating takes a lot of work by dedicated people on a constant basis. We have a dedicated staff who care for our residents and do their best each and every day to provide a high level of care. We are fortunate to have such a workforce and we have an excellent CEO and senior management team. Thank you to all those team members.

Next month the Aged Care Act 2024 will commence. The legislation will contain a clear statement outlining the rights of older people in aged care. It will provide rules to support individuals in making decisions about their care, an option to have a registered supporter such as a family member or friend and provisions to ensure culturally safe and respectful care. It will also provide greater transparency in fees. Yass Valley Aged Care has already been doing these very things for its entire existence so we do not expect this legislation will change much about the way we interact with residents. However the legislation does mandate higher daily care minutes for each resident and while this will result in even better care, it will have an impact on our finances, the extent of which is yet to be determined.

On behalf of the board I would like to thank our residents. They, or a family member chose our facility as their preferred place to be cared for. Without you we would not have a purpose. Your positive feed back continues to motivate us and we hope we continue to exceed your expectations.

Every year brings a new set of challenges and next year will not be an exception. However, we have a talented and hardworking board, committed staff and senior management, motivated volunteers and now the additional support of the Foundation so I am confident we will meet those challenges. It will also be an exciting year as we advance the planning for the MSU and improvements to the facility made possible by the generosity of the Foundation and the Yass community.

Tony Reeves
President
27 October 2025