

Homewood Herald

May - June 2026

Management Team

- 🌻 CEO - Bronwyn Heard
- 🌻 Senior Care Manager - Sushma Ghimire
- 🌻 General Manager – Tom Pembroke
- 🌻 Clinical Care Coordinator (Gardens) – Ladrini Arrowsmith
- 🌻 Clinical Care Coordinator (Nursing Home First Floor) – Emma Dongol
- 🌻 Clinical Care Coordinator (Nursing Home Ground Floor) – Praful Bhari



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Homewood News Highlights

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Message from CEO, Bronwyn Heard

In June and July our residents are visited by an organization contracted to the Commission to chat to residents about their experiences living at Homewood Care. This provides Homewood with very good feedback about what residents enjoy in day-to-day life and also the things they miss or would like to have available. This information goes to the Board and helps us improve our lifestyle programs.

In August, all the residents who live at Homewood Care will be able to participate (or be assisted to participate) in the Census. I'm very excited to let you know that our plans have been submitted for approval to build along Regent Street giving us an additional 55 beds. All our residents will also have access to lovely gardens, a big



room for concerts, a gym and physio fitness centre, a coffee shop and a rooftop terrace. We are also in the process of finalizing plans to renovate lounge and dining areas and bedroom hallways in Homewood Nursing Home and the gardens surrounding both Homewood and Gardens. It means all our residents will have beautiful gardens to enjoy and I expect work to start later this year and be complete well before the new development starts.

During July and August, our registered nurses in Homewood will be trialing clinical ai. The product is called Heidi and is used in hospitals and medical practices across Australia. The outcomes we are testing are that our documentation is perfect, and our RNs have to spend less time writing things up. It's a project we are very excited about as clinical notes are taken when the registered nurse is with each resident (I've dreamed about being able to do it since I started nursing 50 years ago!).

Stay safe well and safe through these cold months.

Message from Senior Care Manager, Sushma Ghimire

We would like to thank all our residents, families and staff for your support during our recent vaccination clinics at Homewood Gardens and Homewood Nursing Home.

We are pleased to share that 93.22% of our residents received their annual influenza vaccination during our clinic held on 24 April 2026. In addition, 80.50% of residents received the Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) vaccine during the clinic held on 25 June 2026. These excellent participation rates help provide important protection against serious respiratory illnesses within our community.

We would also like to advise that we are currently managing an outbreak of Human Metapneumovirus (HMPV) on Level 1 of Homewood Nursing Home. HMPV is a common respiratory virus that causes symptoms like those of RSV, such as cough, fever, congestion and shortness of breath.

The affected residents are being cared for in their rooms, and our clinical team is closely monitoring all other residents. Infection prevention measures have been implemented in line with current public health guidance.

If you are visiting Level 1 of Homewood Nursing Home, we kindly ask that you:

- Wear a face mask while visiting.
- Clean your hands before entering and when leaving the unit.
- Please postpone your visit if you are feeling unwell or have any cold or flu-like symptoms.

These simple measures play an important role in protecting our residents, staff and visitors.

Looking ahead, we have organised a COVID-19 Booster Vaccination Clinic on Friday, 31 July 2026. We encourage all eligible residents to participate in accordance with the recommendations of the Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing. Current advice recommends regular booster doses for older adults, particularly those aged 75 years and over, to help maintain protection against severe illness.

Thank you for your ongoing support and cooperation. By working together, we can continue to provide a safe and healthy environment for everyone in our Homewood community.

If you have any questions regarding vaccinations or the current outbreak, please do not hesitate to speak with a member of our clinical team.



Message from our General Manager, Tom Pembroke

It's been an exciting couple of months at Homewood, and there's plenty happening as we head into July.

From 1 July, we're excited to officially bring our cleaning services in-house. This is a significant milestone for Homewood and will allow us to have even greater control over the quality of our environment. We're especially thrilled to officially welcome Bimal and Ganesh to the Homewood family. While they've been familiar faces around Homewood for many years, it's fantastic to now have them as members of our team.

Bringing the service in-house has also given us the opportunity to trial cleaning robots in our common areas and hallways. These robots won't replace our wonderful cleaning team but will support them by taking care of repetitive floor cleaning, allowing our staff to focus on the detailed cleaning and personal touches that make Homewood feel like home. We're excited to see how this technology can further enhance the cleanliness of our home.

We're also excited to welcome our new Evening Chef, Randa, who joins us at the beginning of July. Randa brings extensive experience in European cuisine and will be helping us continue to improve our evening dining service, with a focus on resident choice, quality and variety. I've been particularly excited by the positive feedback we've received on our new winter menu, and I hope our residents have enjoyed it just as much as I have. We look forward to continuing to build on that momentum over the coming months.

Regarding HELF, from 1 November 2026, residents who were living at Homewood prior to 1 November 2025 and are currently receiving Additional Services will transition to the HELF program. Residents who have moved into Homewood since 1 November 2025 are already on HELF and will not be affected. This transition will provide residents and families with greater flexibility to choose the services that best suit their needs, allowing them to tailor their package to the services they value most or opt out altogether. We will be communicating directly with affected families over the coming months to explain the changes and answer any questions they may have.

And finally, on a personal note, my little boy Maurice has started sleeping almost eight hours a night... and he isn't even two months old! My wife and I are trying not to say it too loudly in case he hears us and decides to change his mind.

I'm also getting very excited about the return of my beloved North Sydney Bears. After hibernating since 1999, they're finally waking up—although they've somehow managed to wake up in Perth! It turns out bears don't hibernate forever... they just take a 27-year nap before deciding on a sea change.

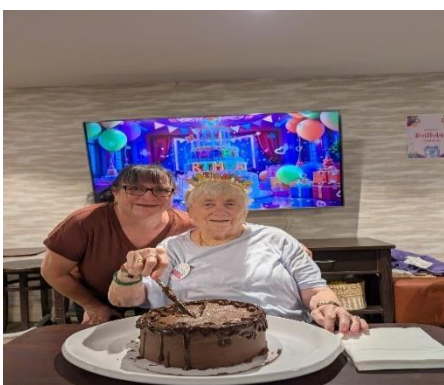
Thank you all for your continued hard work and dedication. I hope you all have a fantastic July.



Events and celebrations

We have celebrated birthdays of few of our residents:

- 🌻 Cassidy, Denis
- 🌻 Palumberi, Anna
- 🌻 Symington, Shirley
- 🌻 Grey, Jean (Helen)
- 🌻 Livermore, Diana
- 🌻 Dimanoski, Nikolina (Nika)
- 🌻 Du Toit, Lorraine
- 🌻 Giunta, Domenico
- 🌻 Jinks, Doreen
- 🌻 Matheos, Irene
- 🌻 Santa Maria, Carole
- 🌻 Ilievski, Aleksia (Anna)
- 🌻 Mann, Carol
- 🌻 Miller, Valarie (Val)
- 🌻 Psiroukis, Stamatia
- 🌻 Serci, Erminio
- 🌻 Toitov, Bula
- 🌻 Velelis, Maro
- 🌻 Yacoumidis, Katina
- 🌻 Psiroukis, Stamatia
- 🌻 Zannino, Teresa
- 🌻 Coffey, Pamela (Pam)
- 🌻 Naumovski, Dimitrije (Mitre or Jimmy)



Leisure and Lifestyle Update

May Highlights

May was another busy and memorable month at Homewood, filled with celebrations, cultural experiences and meaningful moments.

We proudly recognised another group of dedicated team members who reached the incredible milestone of five years or more of service. Their compassion, kindness and commitment continue to make Homewood a wonderful place to live and work, and we thank them for the exceptional care they provide every day.

Residents also enjoyed shopping at the popular Ma & Pa's Fashion Shop, held as one of our twice-yearly experiences. It was a wonderful opportunity for everyone to browse, socialise and enjoy a little retail therapy.

Mother's Day was celebrated with a beautiful High Tea, bringing together the wonderful women of Homewood for an afternoon of delicious treats, laughter and celebration.

Our Lebanese Morning Tea was a vibrant celebration of culture, beginning with the energetic beats of a traditional drummer. Residents enjoyed authentic food, drinks and music while our amazing staff shared their culture, stories and traditions. There were plenty of smiles, dancing and opportunities to learn about Lebanon through our Armchair Travel experience.

We also welcomed a new community music group, Fiesta Choir. The 25-member choir delighted residents with songs performed in a variety of languages, creating beautiful memories and encouraging everyone to sing along.

Our weekly Tai Chi sessions also began this month, with instructor Wei introducing gentle exercises that promote strength, balance, flexibility and relaxation.



June Highlights

June continued the celebrations with more cultural experiences and opportunities for residents to connect.

Residents came together to celebrate Italian Independence Day, enjoying Italian music, delicious food and refreshments while embracing the rich traditions and culture of Italy.

We also raised a glass of bubbles to celebrate The King's Birthday, enjoying an elegant English-themed afternoon filled with classic treats, music and good company.

We were delighted to welcome volunteers from the Macedonian Welfare Society, who spent time with members of our Macedonian community, sharing stories, conversation and creating meaningful connections. To complement the visit, residents travelled to Macedonia through our Armchair Travel experience, exploring the country's beautiful scenery, traditions, music and cuisine.

As always, no month at Homewood would be complete without our much-loved end-of-month BBQ. Residents, families, visitors and staff gathered to enjoy a delicious meal, great conversation and the wonderful sense of community that makes Homewood so special.



Resident Spotlight

Welcoming new residents to Homewood Care Family

We have recently welcomed the following residents to our Homewood Care family:

- 🌻 Devine, Jane
- 🌻 Berville, Ignace
- 🌻 Crighton, Joan
- 🌻 Mihajlovski, Todor
- 🌻 Sullivan, Patricia
- 🌻 Swibel, Larisa

Paying tribute to our wonderful residents

In loving memory over the month, we have said a sad farewell to:

Deceased

- 🌻 Balfour, Teresa (Trish)
- 🌻 Howe, Linda
- 🌻 Simonovski, Gorgi (George)
- 🌻 West, Warren (Warren)

Discharged

- 🌻 Swibel, Larisa (Larisa)

We miss them every day and our thoughts are with their families and loved ones.



Staff Shoutout

Few more addition to Homewood

- 🌻 Baidya, Chandani
- 🌻 Omary, Hawa
- 🌻 Thagichu, Cynthia
- 🌻 Baral, Shristi
- 🌻 Tamang, Shreejana
- 🌻 Sharma, Anuja
- 🌻 Pradhan, Salil
- 🌻 BK, Sabita

Staff farewells

We bid a goodbye to few of our loving and caring staffs:

- 🌻 Nanatsue, Riho
- 🌻 Acharya, Samikshya
- 🌻 Leontsini, Helen
- 🌻 Sapkota, Sandhya
- 🌻 Khadka, Prativa
- 🌻 Gurung, Chungdak

Kitchen team steps up

A big thank you to our incredible all-ladies kitchen team who stepped up when illness left us without our Head Chef, weekend chef and backup chef. Maria, Swastika, Veniola and Moe worked together, supported one another and ensured our residents continued to receive the quality meals they deserve without missing a beat.



Resident Profile: Jane Devine

This month we are delighted to introduce Jane Devine, whose life has been filled with adventure, resilience, and a positive outlook.

Born and raised in South-East London, Jane grew up as the eldest of six children and describes her childhood as a happy one. Her teenage



years in the 1960s and 1970s were exciting times of social change, and Jane laughs that as the oldest sibling, she was often the one who “broke all the rules.”

After beginning her career in accounting in England, Jane went on to become a Financial Controller for a fashion company in London before making the life-changing move to Australia in 1986. Although she has visited England many times since, Australia has remained home.

Jane is most proud of her son, James, whose academic achievements and successful career continue to bring her great joy. Family has always been at the heart of Jane’s life, and one of her fondest memories is a magical Christmas Eve from childhood when her father rang a bell around the house, convincing the children that Father Christmas had arrived.

A lover of sport, music, literature, and laughter, Jane enjoys watching soccer, tennis, and athletics, reading classic authors such as Shakespeare and Charles Dickens, and reminiscing about seeing comedian Rowan Atkinson perform live. Her favourite meal is a traditional Full English Breakfast.

Jane’s advice for a happy life is simple: “Always look on the bright side of life.” She believes in focusing on solutions rather than problems and appreciates every day, recognising just how precious life is.

We are grateful to have Jane as part of our community and thank her for sharing her wonderful story with us.

Staff Spotlight: Venni

This month we are proud to introduce Veniola Setefano, known to everyone at Homewood as Veni. Originally from beautiful Tonga – the Friendly Islands, Veni has been a valued part of the Homewood family for almost five years.

As an AIN, Veni plays an important role within our home, supporting residents with care, assisting with escorts, and helping within kitchen services when needed. Her willingness to step in and help wherever she can truly reflect her hardworking and



compassionate nature. No task is ever too big or too small for Veni, and her positive attitude shines through in everything she does.

Veni shared that her mother inspired her to work in nursing and caring roles, and Homewood is grateful that this path led her here. She describes Homewood as a “second home,” saying the warmth and multicultural environment make her feel welcomed, supported, and appreciated every day.

One of the things residents and staff love most about Veni is her genuine kindness and caring personality. She always takes the time to make residents feel comfortable, respected, and valued, often brightening their day with a smile and friendly conversation. Her caring approach helps create the warm and loving environment that makes Homewood so special.

When asked about her favourite part of the job, Veni simply said she loves “making residents smile and happy.” She hopes to continue making a positive difference in residents’ lives each day — something she already does so naturally.

Thank you, Veni, for your dedication, hard work, and the kindness you show to everyone around you. We are truly lucky to have you as part of the Homewood family. ❤️

Photo(s) of the month

The Socceros may be out of the tournament, but that didn't stop the excitement at Homewood!

♥♥⚽ Ken, Amanda, Joanne, and sisters Pina, Raffaella and Janet proudly showed their support for the green and gold with a fantastic day out at St George Leagues Club.

Win or lose, it's all about enjoying the occasion, sharing great company, and celebrating the game together. The smiles say it all!



Notices & Reminders

Homewood Care Development Presentation

Our Homewood Care Development Presentation will be held on Thursday, 23 July 2026 at 11:30am. This will be an opportunity to learn more about our proposed Regent Street Expansion and the future plans for Homewood Care. Following the presentation, lunch will be provided, and there will be an opportunity to ask questions, share ideas and discuss the exciting future of our community.

To assist with catering arrangements, please RSVP to:

Dyhanne Dean

Wellness & Wellbeing Manager

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