

Hello from Michelle!

Wow, what a year! Looking back over all that has occurred at Dural House, it's certainly been a jam-packed year activity wise, which we will have to try and better next year.

If you have any specific requests for visits to the home, or particular activities that you would like to see being held here, please let us know. I would like to arrange the farmyard friends to come again soon as this was so much fun for everyone and Charles and Candy – Ballroom Dancing will be returning soon as well.

Looking around the gardens of the home, everything has come back to full bloom, it's a great time of year to be out in the gardens, also sitting in the warmth of the spring sunshine. We also welcome our new, full-time gardener, Miles who has previous experience working in one of our beautiful NSW Botanical Gardens, so we know that the Dural House gardens are in great hands!

Our wonderful Café attendant Michele has been with us for a few months now, it has been great having her with us and a lot of positive feedback has been received about the café attendant role and of course, Michele too.

Melbourne Cup is fast upon us as well, get those winning sweeps entries in, then it's almost Christmas time - time really does fly.

We have just undergone our yearly Food Authority Audit, and we received an A rating – congratulations to all the catering team in achieving the highest rating possible, well done.

It's nearly time for Santa to visit again, it only seems like last week that we were celebrating Christmas 2023. Christmas light Night bus trips will be happening again this year, then it's New Year and time to start the fun all over again in a fresh, new year!!

Dural House

Multicultural Day

On March 21st, we celebrated Multicultural Day in style! Residents were treated to a captivating performance by Krystal, the RAO from Beecroft House, who sang beautiful traditional Korean songs whilst her daughter played the oboe.

Krystal also presented us with stunning traditional Korean clothing and shared fascinating insights into Korean customs, making it a truly enriching experience! To top it all off, everyone indulged in a delightful high tea featuring a delightful spread of sweet treats and tasty Asian snacks—proof that good food knows no borders!



Easter

On March 29th, our very own Robin Edmiston led a heartfelt church service in honour of Good Friday. Residents gathered to listen to beloved hymns that lifted spirits and filled the room with harmony!

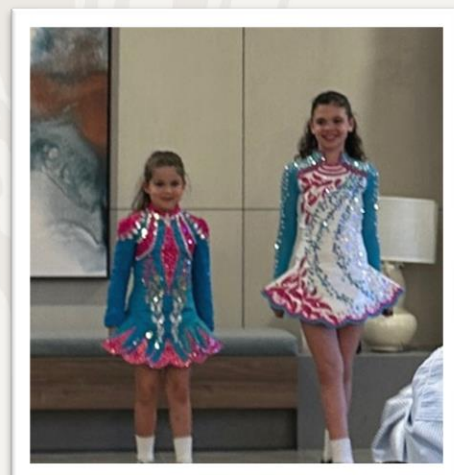
Robin shared an inspiring sermon about the true meaning of Good Friday and Easter, reminding us that even in the solemnity, there's a sweet message of hope and renewal. To add a little extra joy, each attendee received a delightful chocolate gift—a tasty reminder that life is full of “sweet” surprises!

It was a beautiful way to reflect, rejoice, and prepare for the celebrations ahead!



Irish Dancers

Residents at dural house stepped into the emerald isle on April 4th when one of our residents' grandchildren took the stage for an unforgettable afternoon of traditional Irish dancing! With vibrant costumes and lively footwork, these little leprechauns brought a whirlwind of energy that had everyone dancing in their seats!



Dural House

ANZAC Day

On April 25th, we came together to commemorate ANZAC Day in a heartfelt service led by our resident Robin. He opened the ceremony with a moving prayer, setting a respectful tone for the day.

Diana honoured the occasion by reading, "The Ode," reminding us of the sacrifices made. Wallace shared a touching story about his father's experiences during the war, adding a personal touch that resonated deeply with all in attendance.

Harry laid down a wreath to pay respects, followed by the solemn sounds of "The Last Post" and "The Rouse." We united in song with cherished hymns, including "Abide with Me" and "Amazing Grace," creating a powerful atmosphere of reflection and gratitude.

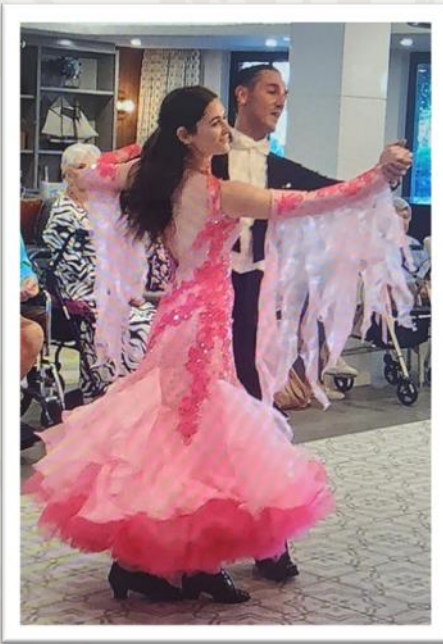
It was a meaningful day, filled with remembrance and camaraderie as we paid tribute to those who served.

Ballroom Dancing

We were in for a treat with two enchanting ballroom dance performances this month! On May 6th, Charles and Candy graced us with their elegant moves, lighting up the room as they glided across the floor to beautiful classics. They invited residents to join in, turning the event into a delightful dance party!

The joy continued May 15th when Robert and Angela took centre stage with every twirl and sway, everyone was captivated by their graceful dancing.

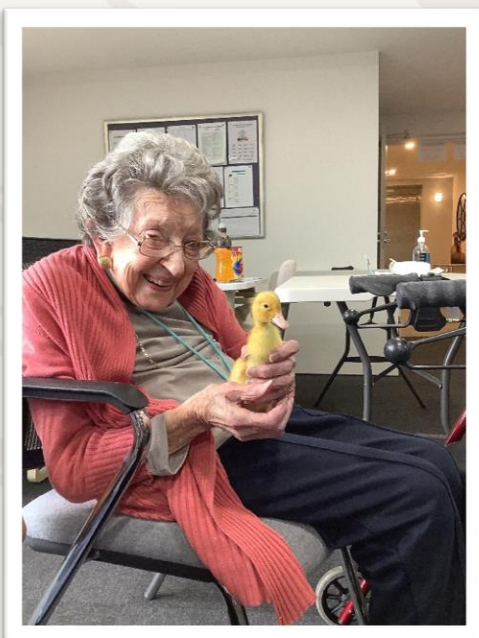




Mobile Farm

On the 7th of May our residents were in for a delightful treat with a visit from the mobile pet zoo! They had the chance to cuddle with adorable baby chicks, fluffy rabbits, and playful goats, turning the day into a real "paw-some" experience!

The joy was contagious as everyone enjoyed some "furry" fun and made some unforgettable memories. It was a day filled with smiles, laughter, and plenty of "baa-ril-liant" moments! Who knew that a little animal affection could make hearts "hoppin'" with joy?



Mothers Day & Jewellery Pop Up Shop

We had a wonderful time celebrating Mother's Day week! On May 9th, residents enjoyed a fabulous shopping spree at our jewellery pop-up shop, where they found stunning pieces that sparkled almost as much as their smiles!

The festivities continued on Friday, May 10th, when the talented Kristy Lee graced us with a lively performance during happy hour. Her energetic tunes had everyone tapping their toes and dancing with joy!

On Sunday, May 12th, we sweetened the occasion with delightful chocolates for all the mums, making it a truly "choco-lot" of love! It was a memorable week filled with laughter, love, and plenty of sparkle!



Biggest Morning Tea

On the 23rd May, our residents enjoyed a delightful high tea at the café as part of the Cancer Council's Biggest Morning Tea event. With delicious treats and warm camaraderie, we came together to raise funds for cancer research—proof that every sip and bite counts!

Thanks to their incredible generosity, we raised an impressive \$325 to support this important cause. It was a morning filled with compassion, laughter, and a “tea-rrific” spirit of giving. Together, we made a difference—one cup at a time!

VIVID lights

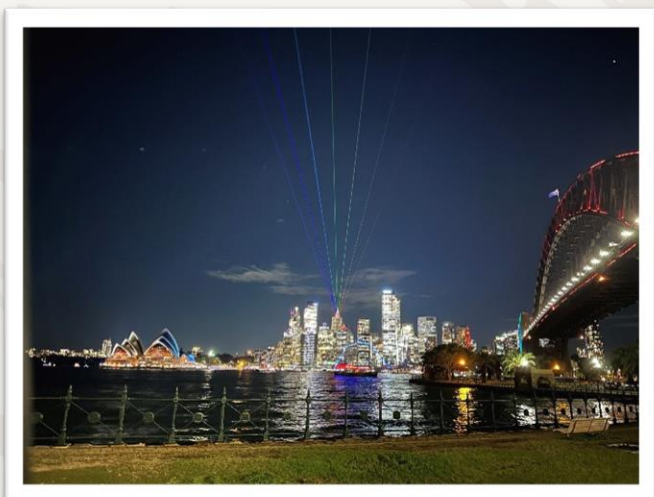
Our residents enjoyed a spectacular night-time bus trip to Sydney’s Vivid Lights event, which dazzled the CBD from May 3rd to 7th! With vibrant colours lighting up the skyline, it was a feast for the eyes that left everyone “illuminated” with joy!

They savoured delicious afternoon snacks as they took in the breathtaking displays, proving that great company and bright lights make the perfect combination! It was truly a night to remember- after all, who could resist a little “light” adventure?

Christmas in July

On the 26th Dural house celebrated Christmas in July! Despite it being winter, the sun was brightly shining without a cloud in the sky! Festive decorations across the tables and Christmas music in the air brought a sparkle of holiday magic.

Residents gathered for a delightful high tea and laughter filled the air as everyone popped Christmas crackers, unleashing a flurry of festive surprises



Dural House

Dural Olympics

Getting into the Olympic spirit, Dural hosted their very own mini Olympics on the 17th July. Our residents brought their A-game, competing in darts, lily pad bowls and cup stack racing.

Harry soared to victory, claiming the trophy for Overall Champion—Congratulations, Harry, for being a true “dart” star! The excitement didn’t stop there; our amazing ladies took home gold medals for their fantastic performances. Cheers to Margaret, Gwenda, Joan, and Elaine—you all truly wowed us with your skills!



Here’s to the spirit of friendly competition and the joy of community—can’t wait for next year’s rematch!



Fathers Day

What a memorable Father’s Day we had! Ron and Roz brought the house down with their lively performances of classic hits, turning our celebration into a sing-along spectacular!

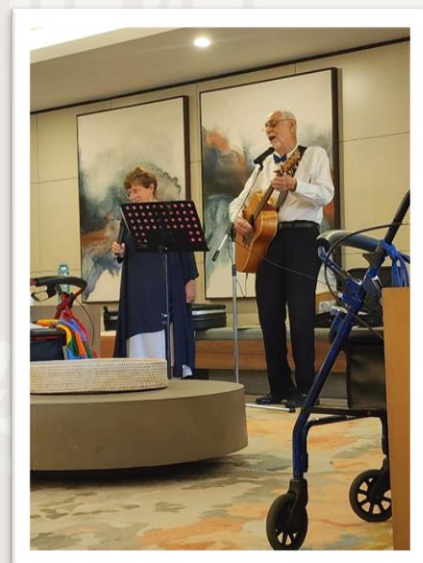
While the tunes flowed, residents savoured a delightful high tea, complete with refreshing beer, wine, and lemonade—truly a “cheers” to all the dads in the room! To top it all off, every man received a box of decadent Lindt chocolates, ensuring no one left with an empty “heart” or stomach.

Here’s to all the wonderful dads!

Carpet Bowls Competition 2024

What a fantastic day we had at the Annual Carpet Bowls Competition against Wahroonga House! The friendly rivalry was in full swing and this year Wahroonga House came out on top with 10 points to our 8, we played our hearts out and had a blast!

Wahroonga truly “bowled” us over with their warm hospitality, providing a delicious lunch that was nothing short of a feast fit for champions. Their inviting atmosphere made it a delightful day for all.



Dural House

RU OK? Day

On the 19th September Residents received their informative RU OK? Day booklets, filled with valuable insights on taking care of mental health—a little “pampering” for the mind!

The day continued with a presentation that encouraged everyone to check in on themselves and each other, reminding us all that mental well-being is just as important as physical health. To wrap up the uplifting event, Rojan graced us with a stunning piano performance, filling the room with melodies that truly touched our hearts.

It was a day dedicated to connection and care, proving that sometimes, a simple “Are you OK?” can make all the difference. Let’s continue to support one another and keep the conversation going—because every day is a great day to check in!



Grandparents Day

Grandparents Day was celebrated on October 25th with a fabulous piano performance by John whilst the residents indulged in a delectable spread of cakes, prawn cutlets and spring rolls.

To wash it all down, we raised our glasses with refreshing beer and wine, toasting to the incredible wisdom and love that our grandparents bring into our lives.



Upcoming Events

- 5th Nov Melbourne Cup
- 11th Nov Remembrance Day
- 14th Nov Rob and Esther Ballroom Dancing
- 27th Nov Christmas Concert with Eileen
- 20th Dec Residents Christmas Party
- 25th Dec Christmas Day
- 31st Dec New Years Eve