

HOUSE NEWSLETTER

2019 Spring Edition

Official Newsletter Gippsland Rotary Centenary House Inc.

Our Purpose: Gippsland Rotary Centenary House Inc (GRCH) provides affordable and supportive accommodation for patients undergoing cancer treatment and other medical services at the Latrobe Regional Hospital and their families. Stage 1 was opened in September 2006 with Stage 2 following in October 2011. Stage 3 then opened in June 2019. The total cost of all projects was approximately \$6.5million financed by grants from the Federal & State Governments, Latrobe City, philanthropic trusts, Rotary Clubs and other community organisations, businesses and the public. GRCH is operated on a non profit basis using volunteers.

HOUSE INFORMATION UPDATE:

Welcome to the latest Gippsland Rotary Centenary House (GRCH) Newsletter. Much has happened since our last one.

Of course the most significant event was the official opening of Stage 3 by one of our most ardent supporters, Federal Member for Gippsland, Darren Chester. On the day we were fortunate to be joined by representatives from Latrobe Regional Hospital, project builders Kingbuilt Commercial, Blue Ribbon Foundation Gippsland, Local Government, Rotary Clubs and supporting businesses.

The extension was complemented by magnificent new landscaping completed by our volunteers under the expert guidance of Ray Scheffer. Utilising his extensive experience as a landscape gardener, Ray has designed beautiful and relaxing outdoor areas that our guests are sure to enjoy. Ray was recognised in June with a Paul Harris Fellow - sapphire (a significant Rotary award) by the Rotary Club of Traralgon, partly due to the considerable time expended making sure the landscaping met his high standards. The landscaping was made possible by way of a donation from the local volunteer Gippsland Cancer Care Support Group.

Later in the year the Committee of Management look forward to hosting the Blue Ribbon Foundation for the dedication ceremony in honour of a Victorian Police Officer.

The new rooms are already being used with Marg Brown, our first Stage 3 resident commenting, "Congratulations to all who planned, designed and worked on the new extension. You nailed it" You can read further comments from Marg on page 4 of this newsletter.

The new guest rooms are adorned by magnificent large canvas prints reproduced from the Gippsland Calendar photographs. Our first residents have already made many comments of their pleasure in recognising the local landmarks from across the region. (Read more on page 4)



Daffodil in the GRCH gardens

Hopefully you enjoy the images throughout the newsletter of the new extension. Much of the fittings and furniture has been made possible by donations from businesses or groups, including Keith Chenhall Charitable Foundation, Gippsland Water, Gippsland Rotary Clubs and Geoff and Helen Handbury Foundation.

Finally our Committee of Management has been strengthened with the addition of our most recent member, Helen Lanigan. Being from the Wellington Shire, Helen will enhance our influence and catchment in that region.

Dave Swainsbury
Chairman, Committee of Management
Gippsland Rotary Centenary House Inc.

Stage 3 of Centenary House Opens

The third stage of Gippsland Rotary Centenary House was officially opened by Federal Member for Gippsland Darren Chester on Friday, 14th June.

The event also included presentations from GRCH Operations and Governance Sub-committee Chairperson Diane Wilkinson, Latrobe Regional Hospital Chairperson Linda McCoy, Kingbuilt Commercial representative Nick Constabile and Blue Ribbon Foundation Gippsland Treasurer Jo Sestokas.

The morning tea was attended by representatives from Gippsland's Local Government Areas, Rotary Clubs, supporting businesses and community groups. After the official opening ceremony and ribbon cutting, attendees were invited to look around the new section.



Federal Member for Gippsland Darren Chester cutting the ribbon to officially open stage 3 with Operations Manager Carol Crewe and members of the GRCH Committee of Management

The new wing will be dedicated to a Police Officer who died in the line of duty in Gippsland after a very generous donation from the Blue Ribbon Foundation, Gippsland. The dedication ceremony will occur later in the year with members of Victoria Police and the Officer's family attending.

The new stage includes 13 guest rooms, laundry, lounge room and a new entrance for access to the hospital. Rooms in the new stage have been dedicated to groups who provided financial support to assist with the costs of decorating and furnishing the rooms. The rooms sponsors are:

- Rotary Club of Drouin;
- Rotary Club of Moe;
- Rotary Club of Korumburra;
- Rotary Club of Foster;
- Rotary Club of Yarram;
- Rotary Club of Casey;
- Eastwood Retirement Village Residents Association;
- Bendigo Bank;
- McDonalds Gippsland and Morwell; and
- Geoff and Helen Handbury Foundation.



Above: The entrance area with the door leading to the path to hospital.



Left: A guest room in the new stage.

Stage 3 of Centenary House Opens

The gardens and grounds around the new building were completed thanks to our wonderful team of volunteers. The design and landscaping was coordinated by Committee of Management member and local landscaper Ray Scheffer, and countless hours of volunteer work were needed to finish the grounds.

The gardens, paths, water features and decking all come together to provide a pleasant and peaceful environment for use by guests staying at the House.

The initial plans for the building were undertaken by architect Auden Pedersen, who designed stages 1 and 2 of GRCH. The drawings and building work were then completed by local builders, Kingbuilt Commercial.

Funds for the project were obtained through a Federal Government Regional Jobs and Investment Package and other donations, including from Blue Ribbon Foundation, Latrobe Regional Hospital and Keith Chenhall Charitable Trust.

Pictured clockwise: Entrance to GRCH from path to hospital; deck with seating; gardens and ramp to lounge door; stage 3 lounge room; and water feature in new garden.



Volunteers Wanted - Join this mighty crew!

We need volunteers to help out with a broad range of jobs including maintenance, gardening, cleaning, laundry, working bees or maybe even assisting with the newsletter. Please contact Operations Manager Carol Crewe on 5171 1600 for more information.

New Member Joins Committee

The Committee of Management is pleased to introduce Helen Lanigan (pictured right) as the newest member of Gippsland Rotary Centenary House Inc.

Residing in the Wellington Shire, part of Helen's role on the committee will be to represent that region of Gippsland.

Helen also has a long history of community service, including as a current member of the Rotary Club of Maffra. Her extensive experience and knowledge will be an asset to the Committee.



Gippsland Calendar Photographs Reproduced

With our new third stage we were very fortunate to be able to access photographs from Darren Chester's #lovegippsland calendar competition in 2018 and 2019. All thirteen guest rooms have a large canvas print of a local Gippsland landmark or scene.

The photographs represent all seasons and come from locations all across the Gippsland region. "It has been lovely to see guests notice somewhere they recognise and rejoice in seeing a small reminder of home while they are staying at Centenary House" said Centenary House Operations Manager Carol Crewe.

Our sincere appreciation goes to the Gippslanders who gave their permission for their photographs to be reproduced by the House to decorate the new stage (as listed below). Thanks also to Darren Chester's office for arranging access to the photographs for Centenary House.

- Gail Haley - Autumn on the Mitchell River Bairnsdale (2018)
- Campbell McHugh - Autumn in Walhalla (2018) (pictured left below)
- Heather Sharp - Sale swing bridge over junction of Thompson and Latrobe Rivers (2018) (pictured right below)
- Ashleigh Morgan - Kilcunda Footbridge (2018)
- Phynea Deluchin - Lakes Entrance Trawlers (2019) (pictured centre below)
- Heather Sharp - Summer Shade in Tarra Bulga (2019)
- Naomi Cranston - Seaspray Summer (2019)
- Coral Flaimer - Joker campground on the Mitta (2019)
- Zoe Henderson - Walking Bridge at Tidal River (2019)
- Oliver Blion - Point Hicks Lighthouse (2019)
- Sue Juha - Pearl Park, Foster (2019)
- Kim Curtis - Lake Guthrie Sunrise (2019)
- Coral Flaimer - Spring image Joker campground on the Mitta (2019)



IMPORTANT NOTE TO READERS: We can save money by e-mailing this newsletter to **you**. Please contact Carol with your e-mail address at **carol@centenaryhouse.org.au** or return the slip on the back page to Gippsland Rotary Centenary House.

Returning guest first to stay in a new room.

Coronet Bay resident Marg Brown (pictured below) has stayed at Centenary House for numerous oncology treatments so it was fitting that she was our first guest in the new extension.

Marg summed up her feelings saying "What a wonderful experience being the very first guest in the newly extended Centenary House. It truly is fabulous having this facility available for country cancer patients and their families. The new rooms are tastefully furnished and comfortable, and the beautiful décor allows for a very relaxed experience – just what we need.

I especially love the kitchen design. The new double shower is glorious and very roomy with a concave niche for toiletries. Also storage under the bathroom vanity makes it very functional.

Congratulations to all who planned, designed and worked on the new extension. Thank you to the wonderful staff. You nailed it!"



Walking path

Thanks to the Latrobe Regional Hospital and Latrobe City a footpath is being installed around the block where the hospital and Gippsland Rotary Centenary House are located.

The path will provide another option for guests to walk to and from the hospital once it is complete. There is still along way to go but the section outside Centenary House is underway now.

Pictured below: the team of contractors installing the section of concrete path along Valley Drive outside Centenary House.



Rotary Club of Yarram Inc.

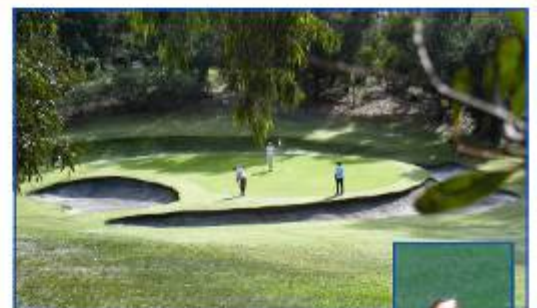
Invites you to join us for a fun day of golf at our

Annual Charity Fun Golf Day

Sunday October 13, 2019

Four-Person Ambrose (Men's, Ladies or Mixed)
Including Ladies Only Team Event

10 am for a 10:30 shotgun start



Only \$25 per head

Includes 18 holes of golf, sausage sizzle, morning and afternoon tea

Great team prizes and charity auction

All proceeds to Gippsland Rotary Centenary House which provides subsidised accommodation to patients and families undergoing cancer treatment at Latrobe Regional Hospital

Call 5182 5596 or 0428 851 375 to book

or email ericjgreenaway@bigpond.com

If you can't make a team of four, we will match you up with other players

Gippsland Water Grant

In 2018, Gippsland Rotary Centenary House was fortunate to received \$5000 from Gippsland Water to install a new water tank at the facility (pictured right). The aim of the tank was to both save water and to help reduce operating costs.

The tank was installed in May 2019, as part of the stage 3 build. Water collected and stored in the tank is used onsite in toilets, washing machines and gardens, minimising the amount of treated water used. Access to the water also helps maintain the gardens at the House that are a haven for guests, making their stay more relaxing.



Christmas in July Fundraiser

Gippsland Rotary Centenary House Fundraising Sub-committee held a "Christmas in July" Dinner Dance again this year. Over 100 participants enjoyed a dinner at the Traralgon Vineyard with musical entertainment, raffles and an auction of locally donated items. The event was a fun night for all, was well as raising over \$8,000 for Gippsland Rotary Centenary House.

Pictured: Members of the Fundraising Sub-committee on the night

Come Along And Join Us

GIPPSLAND ROTARY CENTENARY HOUSE

for our

Chat & Chew Girls Fun Day Out

Saturday 19th October 2019
12pm

Grand Junction Function Room
Traralgon

2 Course Meal with Tea & Coffee Available

Raffle's \$2 Lotto & Door Prize's

For Tickets Phone - 0417679224 0431144674



Upcoming Events to support GRCH (save the date!)

Refer to our facebook page or website for more information about individual events.

- ◆ Rotary Club of Yarram Charity Golf Day—Sunday 13th October, Yarram Golf Course.
- ◆ GRCH Chat & Chew—Saturday 19th October, Grand Junction Traralgon

Gippsland Rotary Centenary House Newsletter

- To assist Gippsland Rotary Centenary House I agree to receive the Newsletter via e-mail rather than have a copy posted out to me. Please add my e-mail address as below to the electronic mailing list.
- Please remove me from the mailing list for the Gippsland Rotary Centenary House Newsletter, I do not wish to receive a copy of the newsletter in future.

Full Name: _____

Postal Address: _____

_____ Post Code: _____

e-mail address: _____

To update or remove your details from the Gippsland Rotary Centenary House mailing list please complete and return this section to :

Gippsland Rotary Centenary House
39 Valley Drive
Traralgon VIC 3844

Centenary House Updates

- If you would like to know what is happening at Centenary House you can keep up to date by following the Gippsland Rotary Centenary House Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/Gippsland-Rotary-Centenary-House-206290322733733/>

- Or you can go to our website and read the News & Events page to keep up to date.

<http://www.centenaryhouse.org.au/>

- To make an accommodation booking or for all general enquiries please contact Centenary House staff (Monday - Friday 09.00—16.00)

Phone: 03 5171 1600

Fax: 03 5171 1660

Email: info@centenaryhouse.org.au