



Meals on Wheels
Eurobodalla

CLIENT NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2020



The year is quickly drawing to a close and there are many looking forward to a fresh start when 2021 arrives.

It has been a vastly different year and one we will talk about for some time to come. But we have safely arrived at Christmas and it is time to celebrate with family, friends, and neighbours.

With this Newsletter there is a small gift of a calendar and pen as well as a Christmas Card produced by the students at Batemans Bay Public School. It is our way, and the children's way of wishing you all the best for this festive season and the new year.

To catch up on the year here are some interesting facts;

- ✚ Our volunteers have done a wonderful job- they have continued all year through the pandemic to make sure meals are delivered and where possible people are supported. I thank them for the dedication and for taking the necessary precautions to protect you and them.
- ✚ Out and About is our Group Social support programme -it stopped in March and started again in November. Everyone was desperate to get out and do the exciting things planned by Chelsea and Keith; to travel to various places; to enjoy morning tea and lunch together and to have some fun.
- ✚ Our Individual Social support did stop for a while but has been operating for most of the pandemic period. We changed from taking people shopping to doing the shopping for them and we continued with the gardening but hope to add other bits to our programme in 2021.
- ✚ Our Wallaga Lake Elders Group met in February, but we have not been able to get back into the Community to offer our monthly support. We hope that this will start again in 2021.
- ✚ Our PALZ group which meets at Banksia Village every two months also stopped in March, but it has been difficult to get back into the Centre to offer the support. This is sad as the group was just starting to get into a rhythm and have some nice times together. This group, which meets on a Tuesday morning to hear a speaker and have a discussion was designed for professionals who are suffering from the onset of dementia. But we are happy to expand this group and invite others, and their carer to join. I shall send more on this in the new year.
- ✚ Our Board has continued to work though and make sure our Cooperative is in good shape. They recently held their Annual General Meeting, and two new people joined the Board. We did have two people retire after serving our Cooperative so well. The Board is looking at our future and the Royal Commission looking at Aged Care will assist us when they deliver their recommendations. However, our Board has one focus and that is to make our organisation strong and viable to serve you to the best of our ability.
- ✚ We had a great celebration of National Meals on Wheels Day in August and as the last newsletter showed, we had support from the Mayor and Councillors who delivered meals and thanked volunteers. We also got some particularly good press coverage.
- ✚ During the year, our organisation has had some great media attention from articles in various publications, to radio interviews on various matters, front cover of the NSW Meals on Wheels magazine and we hope soon to feature in a publication with the Australian. It is great for people to see what we are able to provide for you.
- ✚ We have been keeping up the pressure on the Eurobodalla Shire Council over the future of the Batemans Bay Community Centre.



The Council is evaluating Expressions of Interest from organisations who wish to Lease the Centre for 'Community Activities'. Our concern is that groups will be charged 'commercial rent' compared to the wonderful rates the Council provides for its community groups. We want the Council to maintain and operate the facility for the community. We hope that you agree and maybe you could let your Councillors know.

Meals news

From December there will be a new summer menu starting and there will be the Christmas Menu circulating ready for your order. We do hope this comes back to us quickly.

Our volunteers will have new delivery bags from December. These are navy blue with white writing on them and they look very smart.



We will have final delivery dates and new year starting dates as follows:

Batemans Bay	last delivery Wednesday 23 December	First delivery 2021 ...6 January
Broulee and Tomakin	last delivery Tuesday 22 December	First delivery 2021 ...5 January
Moruya	last delivery Tuesday 22 December	First delivery 2021 ...5 January
South Head and Tuross	last delivery Thursday 17 December	First delivery 2021 ...7 January
Narooma	last delivery Friday 18 December	First delivery 2021 ...8 January

Please make sure you have ordered enough to see you through. Our office will be open from Monday 4 January (8.30-12.00) to take orders and to assist if there is an emergency.

Out and About news

Our November programme has gone well, and the team have now produced the December and January one. I hope you have your copy.

Out and About will have their final days as follows:

Narooma	Monday 14 December (Christmas Party)
Moruya	Wednesday 16 December
Lunch About	Tuesday 15 December
Batemans Bay	Thursday 17 December (Christmas Party)

Out and about will start again on Monday 11 January.

We are looking for a new bus driver for Tuesday as the wonderful Neil will not be completing this role in the new year. This is incredibly sad as he is such an important part of our Lunch about effort and is so nice and kind to everyone.



Individual Social Support news

This will conclude for the year on 18 December and will restart around Monday 11 January.

We are looking to provide more support to you so please contact Karen if you would like to discuss how you may access this.

Office hours (Office number: 4474 4464)

The office will close at mid-day on Wednesday 23 December.

The office will reopen (8.30-12.00) on Monday 4 January.

The office will open for normal hours (8.30-3.00) from Monday 11 January.

Payments

Thank you for assisting to make us cashless. Please keep in touch if you have concerns with the accounts and ring the programme Coordinator or our Finance Officer.

I wish you a happy and very safe Christmas. I look forward to 2021 and enjoying a great year with you.

Alan Russell,
Manager

