

NEWSLETTER

CONTACT DETAILS

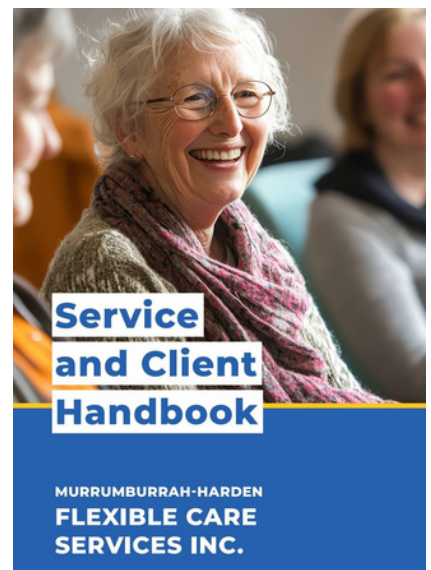
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From our CEO

A winter welcome to you all - Our business remains committed to staying abreast of the many ongoing changes/updates impacting delivery of care to our 'aged' clients. With increased government compliance and evolving service expectations, we continue to prioritise best practice in all aspects of home-based care for our ageing community. Whilst we are adopting 'business as usual' for our day to day running of our service we continue to keep a keen eye on government compliance and 'rumblings' in regards to the full adoption of the Support at Home Program anticipated after 1st July 2027 - many service providers claim 'don't fix what's not broken' and are fighting for CHSP fundings to remain as a standalone funding base - we will await further developments on this

Recently we welcomed Kate Fitzgerald to our staffing team, Kate is loving her time with us and really fitting in well, this complements our roster/client needs. Again, I thank all our team for the work they do to ensure our clients continuum of care is of highest standard and priority.

22/7/26 our staff/volunteer drivers will all undergo their annual mandatory training compliance.



With relief our Renault Bus after many repairs and maintenance is fully back on the road and in use for all our transport needs, one driver stating 'she's like brand new'. In other transport news thankfully we didn't have to endure the exorbitant fuel costs for too long as it was a threat to our core business. I thank all our Volunteer drivers who go above and beyond to make sure our clients transport needs are met.

Next time you are having a bit of 'D-Time' why not search our newly refreshed Flexicare website - we have streamlined and added some very relevant information to it.

flexicare.org.au

This year Flexi Care have participated in many community events; Anzac Day remembrance, seniors week celebrations and our team remain involved with regular business meetings arranged via HRDC who as a collective are all striving to promote our local area in both the business & social spaces



Thanks to everyone for supporting our 2026 Major Raffle this was so beneficial to inject some much needed funds to our organisation raising a tick over \$8500 – thank you to everyone whether you purchased tickets, donated products or sold some tickets for us - on the whole a truly amazing result. Our lucky winners were; Carol Fisher, Jenny Roberts, Stacey Baker, Teigan Martin, Colin Woods & Billy Tobin – all were wrapped with their prizes.

During May we again highlighted our volunteer base with our 2026 Thank You dinner – we all enjoyed a nice meal and some light hearted fun with everyone really getting into the spirit of the evening – we cannot do it with all our Volunteers assistance and this is something we are very grateful for. If you think you might have a spare few hours and would like to volunteer pop in and say giddy and we can provide some details.



You will notice that Hilltops Council have modified the East St parking arrangements out the front of our office/library, now 'nose-in' parking on both sides of the street – all seems to be working well (just be aware of a single bay of 1hr parking allotment).



Again, I thank all our team of staff, board & volunteers for their ongoing commitment and dedication to our service.

Maryanne (CEO)



From the Board

Winter has finally arrived, and the weather has certainly turned it on to show us! We have had a very busy few months packed with many activities organised by our team.

Board Members:

Paula Phelan – Chairperson
 Nicole Carson – Vice Chair
 Allyson Wales – Secretary
 Gemma Gash – Assistant Secretary
 Lynne Friend – Treasurer, Public Officer
 Grahame Taylor – Director
 Carol Barker – Director
 Bev Stevenson – Director
 Adarsh Sajeev – Director
 Keith Ward – Director
 Maryanne Fitzgerald – CEO (ex officio)



Please feel free to invite and encourage others to join these future events. Upcoming activities are regularly advertised via posters at the hub, around the community, on Facebook, and on our website.

Board of Directors Update

We have recently had a few changes to our board over the last couple of months.

I would like to pass on thanks to **Amanda Sachs** and **Robert Fitzpatrick**. These two board members have made invaluable contributions to Flexible Care. Whether cleaning up after the hail storm, volunteering to sell raffle tickets, supplying beautiful raffle prizes— or donating trailers of firewood— their dedication has been incredible. We thank them deeply for their commitment and wish them the very best in all their future endeavours.

We would also like to extend a warm welcome to our two newest board members, **Bev Stevenson** and **Adarsh Sajeev**

A profile of Bev Stevenson (2026) and Allyson Wales (2025) can be found on pages 5 & 6. Stay tuned for further profiles.

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

Our Volunteer Dinner was another huge success, thanks to the wonderful efforts of the Hub staff. It is always a fun event, with Maryanne compering and testing the knowledge of our attendees. We even discovered that answering your phone during the trivia might result in having to wear a tutu! This dinner was a fantastic way to celebrate and recognise the invaluable contributions our volunteers make. We are deeply grateful for everything they do for our organisation.

Fundraising & Raffles

Our Big Fundraiser has officially been drawn! We greatly appreciate our local community for getting behind us with such immense generosity to make it such a success. Thank you to everyone who helped sell tickets and to everyone who supported us by buying them. Keep an eye out in early August, as we will be launching our annual Firewood Raffle just in time for the cold weather.

Paula

Hub Happenings

It has been another busy and enjoyable few months at the Hub, with plenty of activities, outings, special events and lots of laughter shared along the way.

We have been fortunate to welcome some wonderful guest speakers, including Liam, who shared his knowledge on exercise physiology, and Megan from Ageing with Vitality, who provided valuable information and practical tips for healthy ageing and the ageing with vitality program. We are also looking forward to welcoming Marilyn, who will be sharing stories and photos from her recent travels.



Our friends from Trinity School have visited us again, and as always, they certainly didn't disappoint! The children bring so much energy, fun and laughter to the Hub, and everyone looks forward to spending time together. These visits continue to be a highlight for both the students and our Hub members.

We've also enjoyed several outings together. A trip to Yass gave everyone the chance to enjoy lunch and a little retail therapy, while our train trip to Junee was one to remember. After lunch at the Junee Railway Café, we visited the Chocolate Factory before enjoying a relaxing bus trip home. It was wonderful to hear some of our Hub members say they hadn't travelled on a train since they were children, making the day even more special.



Our regular visits to the Harden Country Club for music and lunch have also been a favourite, and everyone is eagerly looking forward to celebrating Christmas in July together.



There is always something happening at the Hub, with new activities, outings and special events being planned. Be sure to keep an eye on our Facebook page to see what we've been up to and what's coming up next. We'd love to see some new faces join us for the fun!



Back at the Hub, there has certainly been no shortage of fun! We've tested our shopping skills with The Price Is Right (and discovered we have some very savvy shoppers!), commemorated Anzac Day, celebrated World Art Day, Mother's Day, NAIDOC Week and Pajama Day, enjoyed a very competitive Wimbledon in the Hub with the table tennis table getting quite the workout, played plenty of bingo, and most recently stepped into a magical world with our Alice in Wonderland Tea Party. We are very excited to be attending the community book fair in August and have been working on our costumes.



As we reflect on the wonderful times we've shared together over the past few months, we also take a moment to acknowledge the passing of two of our much loved Hub members. They were a valued part of our Hub family, and their friendship, smiles and presence will be deeply missed by both staff and fellow clients. We extend our heartfelt condolences to their families and loved ones. They will always hold a special place in our hearts and will be fondly remembered.



Meals on Wheels News

For the financial year ending 30 June 2026, we delivered 600 more meals than our funded target.



This is a fantastic achievement and highlights the growing need for our service within the community.

While overall meal deliveries have increased, we have seen a significant decline in the number of hot meals being delivered.

If you, or someone you know, would benefit from having a hot meal delivered five days a week, please get in touch with me to discuss this service.



Our Meals on Wheels audit is currently underway. We will continue working closely with our meals provider, Narrandera Meals on Wheels, to ensure we meet all compliance requirements.

We are looking for volunteers to help sell raffle tickets in town on the day. If you can spare some time to assist, please let us know—we would greatly appreciate your support.



Our **annual Wood Raffle** will be drawn on Thursday, 6 August.

Jacinta

New Board Member - Bev Stevenson



After retiring from a rewarding 34-year career in administration at Murrumburrah High School, I have embraced a new chapter centred on community service and volunteering.

Giving back to the community has become an important part of my life. I currently serve as Treasurer of the MH Hospital Auxiliary and Secretary of our local Can Assist branch, both roles that allow me to support organisations making a real difference to the lives of others. I also enjoy volunteering at the Anglican Op Shop, where I appreciate the opportunity to meet people and contribute in a practical way.

I was honoured to be invited to join the Board of Flexible Care Services and look forward to supporting an organisation that provides services to older and frail people and those living with disability in our community. I hope to bring my administrative experience, organisational skills and commitment to community service to the Board, while continuing to learn from my fellow members.

I feel privileged to be able to give back to the community that has given so much to me over the years and am excited to contribute to the important work of Flexible Care Services.

Bev



Transport News

Here we are already in the middle of the year. Time flies when you are having fun.



It is business as usual here at Community Transport, still providing reliable, safe transport for medical and personal appointments, both locally within our region.

Fortnightly shopping trips have continued for the year so far. These have proven to be very popular and sought-after days.

Our social outings have been particularly popular and enjoyable for everyone involved. Some highlights from the past few months include:

- Barmedman Mineral Pool
- Jade Hurley Musical
- Elvis Tribute Show
- Southern Cross Cinema Young
- Circus Arlo
- Adam Harvey "Workin Overtime Tour"

To stay up to date with our upcoming social outings, please check our Facebook page or visit our office for the latest information.

In the past three months we welcomed three new volunteer drivers to our team which is wonderful. Without our volunteers giving up their valuable time for our organisation, we would not be able to offer this very important service to the Harden Community and surrounds, so I would like to extend a big THANK YOU to each and every one of you.

Transport services have been extremely busy over the past three months. From 1st April to 30th June, we transported 767 passengers to a range of medical and social appointments, ensuring our clients stayed connected with the services and activities that matter most to them.



19th of June we conducted Driver Training at the office. This was well represented with 10 of our volunteer drivers attending. All attendee's said it was a very beneficial day and thoroughly enjoyed it.

If you have ever thought about becoming a volunteer driver, we would love to hear from you. Please call into the office and I will happily talk you through the process

New Board Member -Allyson Wales



I've lived in Harden for most of my life, completed school here, raised my 2 sons in Harden and now have 4 grandchildren in town.

I started my career in Finance in Harden in 1997 and am now working with Graymont Australia at their Galong site.

I was inspired to join the Board of MHFCS and give back to this wonderful Community organisation, having experienced the care and support that they provide firsthand through the social hub that my mother attends each Tuesday.

Allyson