

THE VILLAGE NEWS



ALLAMBIE HEIGHTS
Village Ltd.

Retirement Village



ALLAMBIE HEIGHTS
Village Ltd.

Residential Aged Care Facility



William Charlton Village

Retirement Village

December 2020—January 2021

Allambie Heights Village Ltd.

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COVID-19 on the Northern Beaches

This is not the headline that I was expecting to write as we entered the Christmas Period. As at 21 December 2020, 'Fortress Allambie' achieved 265 days without any of our residents having contracted flu or COVID-19. And we reached 191 days many weeks ago when only one resident presented with symptoms of a cold. Until then, we were cold-free, flu-free and COVID-19 free.

An amazing demonstration of protection of our residents and we all hope that the journey will continue for much longer.



Fortress Allambie at 240 days

Our heroes for 2020 are all the management and staff of Allambie Heights Village Ltd.

Of course, we are thankful to our staff, all who have made many sacrifices during 2020 in not seeing family members, in choosing not to go to venues which could present risks or in their asking their household members to follow a similar regime because as 'Essential Service Personnel', we take our responsibilities most seriously. So, our heroes for 2020 are all the management and staff of Allambie Heights Village Ltd. Quite simply, we have extended the lives of our residents, we have protected them and we have saved lives.

NSW Minister for Health, Brad Hazzard MP said in a speech recently in relation to the presence of a

number of people on the Northern Beaches who had tested positive for COVID-19, "Until we have a vaccination, we do not have a solution". A resident of the Northern Beaches himself, he said that he had in past weeks observed complacency among people and he called it "an avalanche" adding that "complacency cannot continue". The Residents of the Northern Beaches have responded in unison and thousands have chosen to get tested.

If we are to continue to protect our oldest, our most vulnerable citizens, we who are younger and fitter must make more sacrifices and that means that we must make responsible decisions about with whom we socialise, where we socialise, the venues we choose to visit or of course that we curtail our lifestyles for longer until the vaccination arrives and is given to our most needy. We need to take these responsibilities seriously.

During 2020, Australia has done exceedingly well to tackle and to manage the Covid-19 pandemic compared to so many countries across the world. I am confident that we can continue to push through and in doing so, protect each other. It may be a different Christmas and Festive Season this year but let us all look forward to spending it as best as we can within our households, safely and to make the best use of technologies available to us to contact our loved ones.



Casino Royale, The Bond Girls

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Virtual AGM 2020

AGM 2020 was a very different event on 28 October 2020 when the Board of Directors and Management conducted the business of the Annual General Meeting of Allambie Heights Village Ltd. by Zoom.

The Chief Executive Officer reflected on “one of the most challenging years experienced in modern history” and praised his staff team. He spoke of stories of ‘restricted access’ and then ‘elevated restricted access’ when our staff came together with overwhelming support from our residents and their relatives. But also with the support of staff families who knew well the sacrifice that their loved ones were making in this most compelling reaction and statement of humanity, to leave the safety of their home and to go to work, to protect the vulnerable and the needy older persons in our care.



Cameron Harris, 5 years service as a Board Director with Wendy Kramer, President and Ciarán Foley, Chief Executive Officer



Wolfgang Müller, 15 years service as a Board Director



Gerd Wilmer, 15 years service as a Board Director



The Board of Allambie Heights Village Ltd.,
Annual General Meeting 2020

A first responder, a robust defence

As the weeks progressed in early 2020, our doors and gates closed and we became ‘Fortress Allambie’ at our Allambie Heights Village Residential Aged Care Facility. A first responder, a robust defence against a formidable enemy which was killing tens of thousands of older persons across the world and then it came closer to us in Australia and threatened and breached a few of Australia’s residential aged care facilities.

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A humble reminder of the weakness of the human body but what an opportunity to show an immense human spirit to push through, to sustain the waves of threats and to show Australia and the world that as an Industry, we have always been something special, providing 'special' in so many acts of compassion, kindness, skill and professionalism throughout every minute of every day to our residents.

An immense human spirit to push through

An 'essential service' with 'essential workers' who have been so undermined for years by Australia and by Australia's Governments and public servants, many who enjoyed the comfort and protection of their homes when the Nation went into a status of 'Lockdown' for millions but not for us, for our Aged Care and Retirement Village Industries and not for our 'essential workers'.

Providing 'special' in so many acts



Casino Royale, 'Rien ne va plus!'



Casino Royale, Choenga groovin' with Valerie



'On Your Marks', Olympic Games 2020

Proud is insufficient a description to demonstrate my feeling towards my team of staff, every single one of them across our Company who set aside their job titles and job descriptions to assist each other in working and responding to our residents and to create environments of normality where we could and we did.

In the absence of visitors, entertainers, medical practitioners, psycho-geriatricians and churches too, our staff became all of these and what a job they did. They became leaders in entertainment and exercise, they were singers and dancers, listeners and holders of hands, giving hugs and using their own personal phones to phone a resident's family because the resident did not have a phone or could not use it, to simply allow a resident say 'good night' and 'all's well'. They became priests and pastors during ecumenical services and along with our residents, they sewed and created costumes and created sets for afternoon and evening entertainment.



Olympic Winners Olive Hunter (100 years) & Margaret Brennan

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And when politicians and journalists were speaking rubbish and searching for stories of residents being 'locked' in rooms, isolated from others, 'Fortress Allambie' partied all night! James Bond, M, Fussy Galore, Dr Yes, the Bond Girls, everyone dressed up 'to the nines' entered 'Casino Royale' and had a whale of the time. Our video went across Australia and Australia smiled widely wishing they had been with us on the night.

Our residents embraced technology and became experts in the use of SKYPE and our staff, door knocked residents of our independent living apartments in our retirement villages to check that they were going well, to speak with them and to reassure them.

'Fortress Allambie' partied all night!

When Companies across the world and across Australia have suffered record losses, experienced insolvencies, retrenchments and unemployment, Allambie Heights Village Ltd. has grown in its staffing, in its cashflows and in its operational revenues and we have continued to be profitable and purposeful.

Our EBITDA for financial year ending 30 June 2020 was \$1,279,199 and our Net Profit was \$1,067,527. We are planning for greater growth next year.



'The Importance of being an Olympian'
Olympic Games 2020



The Bar Boys at Casino Royale



Hawaiian Christmas 2020

Happy Christmas and New Year!

The Management and staff wish all our residents at Allambie Heights Village Residential Aged Care Facility and at our Retirement Villages, Allambie Heights Village and William Charlton Village, a safe and Happy Christmas. We hope that the New Year will bring us all happiness and good health.

Thank you to our Company Members, Directors, Volunteers, all our Contractors and finally to all our Staff and your families.

Merry Christmas!

Ciarán Foley, Chief Executive Officer.

Catering Industries

