

THE VOICES OF ST VINCENT'S



ST VINCENT'S CARE

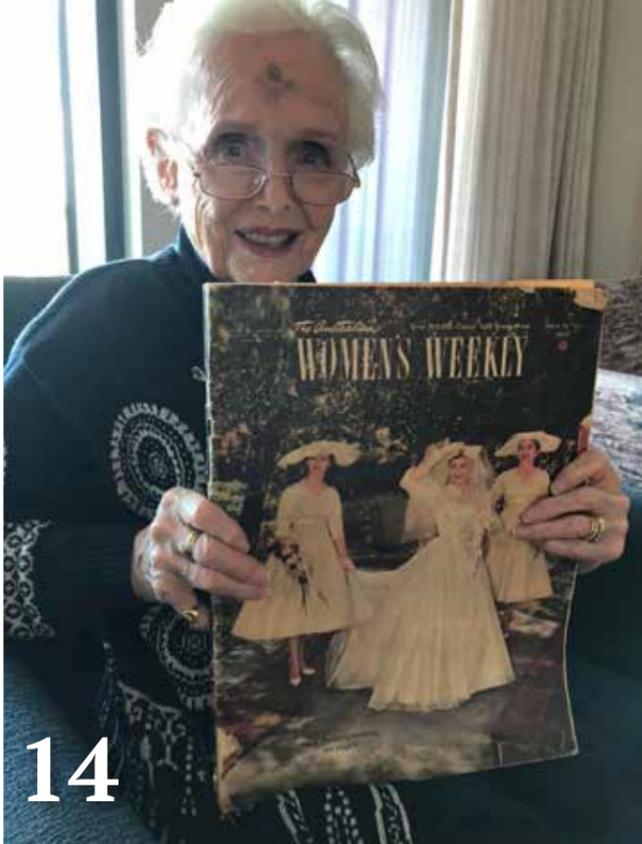


APRIL 2022



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2022 CALENDAR DATES

MAY

| | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| 2 MON Labour Day (QLD) | 8 SUN Red Cross Day | 8 SUN Mother's Day | 12 THU International Nurses Day |
| 16 MON National Volunteer Week | 26 THU Ascension of the Lord | 23 MON Southport Anniversary | 24 TUE Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians (Patron saint of Australia) |
| 26 THU National Sorry Day | 29 SUN Mitchelton's Anniversary | | |

JUNE

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| 1 WED Carseldine Anniversary | 3 FRI Mabo Day | 5 SUN Pentecost |
| 5 SUN World Environment Day | 13 MON Queen's Birthday (NSW, VIC) | 20 TUE World Refugee Day |
| 21 THU International Day of Yoga | 29 WED Feast of St Paul | 30 THU Toowoomba Anniversary |

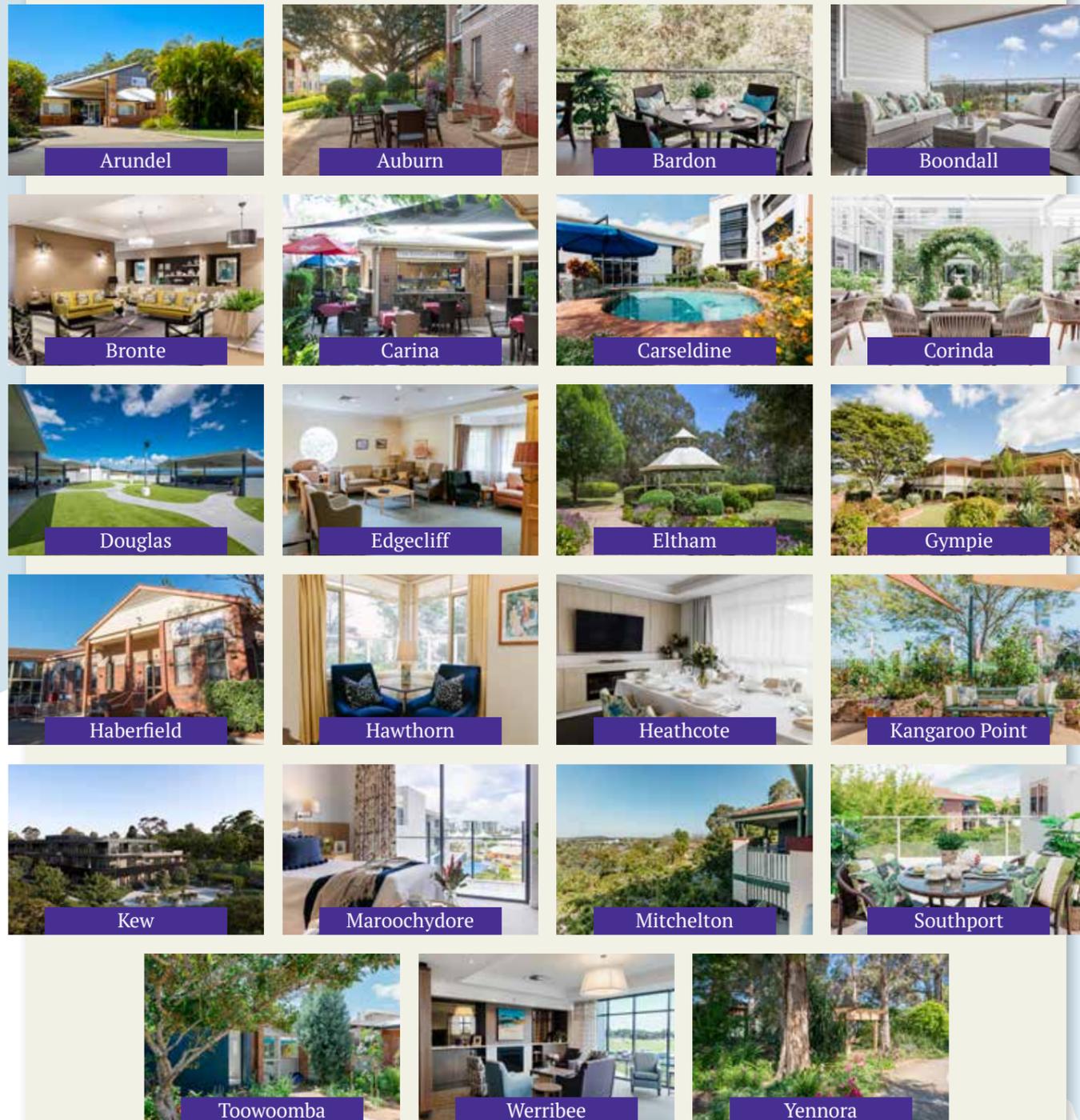
JULY

| | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1 FRI Edgecliff Anniversary | 1 FRI Eltham Anniversary | 3 SUN NAIDOC Week |
| 22 FRI Feast of Mary Aikenhead | 27 WED Hawthorn Anniversary | 30 SAT International Day of Friendship |



HOME LOCATIONS

St Vincent's Care Services has a total of 23 aged care homes across QLD, NSW and Victoria.



- QLD**
- Arundel
- Bardon
- Boondall
- Carina
- Carseldine
- Douglas
- Enoggera
- Gympie
- Kangaroo Point
- Maroochydore
- Mitchelton
- Southport
- Toowoomba
- NSW**
- Auburn
- Bronte
- Edgecliff
- Haberfield
- Heathcote
- Yennora
- VIC**
- Eltham
- Hawthorn
- Kew
- Werribee



MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

Dear St Vincent's Residents,

Can you reflect with me for a minute?

With Easter already behind us for another 12-months, I've decided this year to spend quality time deeply pondering the meaning of Easter – for me personally and also for all of us here at St Vincent's.

It's so easy to get caught up in the 'doing' of habits (and the hype!) of the Easter season, without reflecting on the 'why' of it all. For me, Jesus' sacrifice on the cross was a radical act of love for all of humankind that demonstrated what we now know as the "ultimate sacrifice". Indeed, before His death that first Easter, Jesus

explained that "...greater love has no-one than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends" (John15:13).

Which is why, when I hear of staff giving up their time to continue your care, or residents volunteering around your home, or loved ones coming in to help out with activities, I'm reminded of Jesus' example, His encouragement to put others before ourselves, and our rich heritage at St Vincent's of putting this into practice since the late 1800's.

Whilst Easter is a special time of recalling sacrifice, love, and care – it is also something I

get to see and experience all year around! The actions of the St Vincent's team day in day out is simply our way of honouring Jesus and our legacy of sacrificial love in the service of others.

And that is something I am exceptionally proud of at St Vincent's.

So, I wanted to thank you again for being in our community and also to encourage you. We are honoured to be caring for you in your home this Easter, next Easter and everyday in between!

Speaking of Easter - let's quickly talk about this month's newsletter! In this edition you'll see smiling faces, brilliant stories and so much more. And don't forget, we're always looking for

resident submissions, so if you've got some art, a poem, a hobby or even something from your own life that you'd like to share, let us know.

Thank you again for making the St Vincent's community what it is. You are the centre of everything that we do.

God bless,

LINCOLN HOPPER
Chief Executive Officer



MESSAGE FROM OUR MISSION LEADER

Dear Residents,

I thought I would share the President of the Australian Catholic Bishop Council, Most Rev. Mark Coleridge's Easter homily with you:

Christianity can be described in many different ways. In the first of his Encyclical Letters, way back in 1979, the then new Pope John Paul II offered one remarkable description. He wrote that Christianity is not a religious system or even a religion in any conventional sense, but is rather an experience – an experience, he said, of encounter, encounter with the crucified and risen Christ. In this encounter, the Pope claimed, and only in this encounter, we come to see the full truth of who God really is and who we human beings really are. This vision of the full truth, the Pope writes, is an experience of amazement – and “the name for that deep amazement”, he says, “is the Gospel, the Good News. It is also called Christianity” (Redemptor Hominis, 10).

That's why we hear in the Gospel that Peter, having run to the tomb and found it empty, “went back home, amazed at what had happened”. This isn't yet the fullness of the amazement of which the Pope speaks, but it is the beginning. The fullness will come only once Peter encounters the Risen Lord.

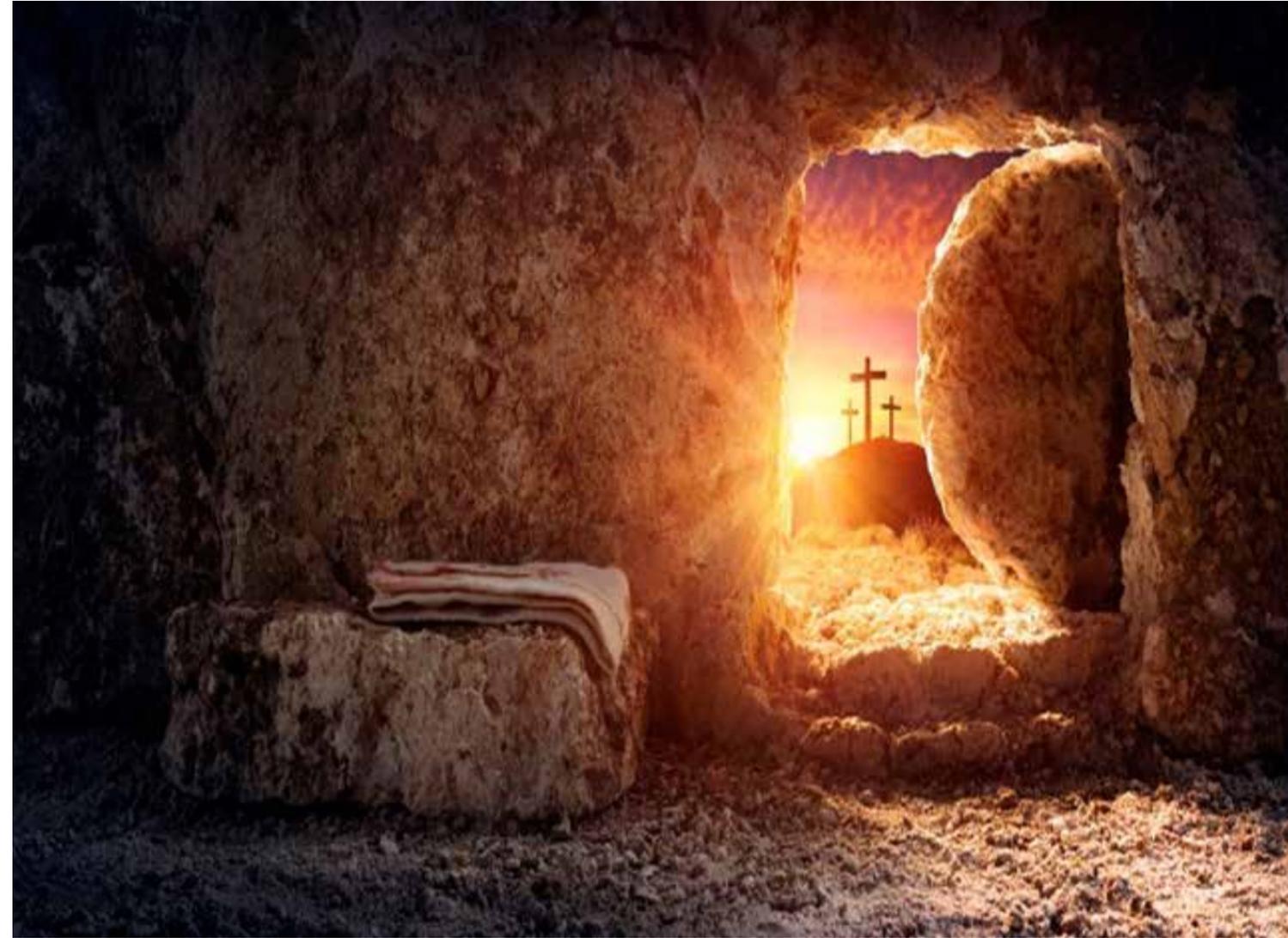
When the women tell their story of going to the tomb, finding it empty and encountering the two messengers in brilliant clothes who speak of resurrection, it seems to the Apostles “pure nonsense”; and who can blame them for that? Their journey from thinking that it's pure nonsense to the experience of deep amazement will be a journey out of an old world with its old logic which says resurrection is impossible into a new world with its new logic which says that resurrection has happened and is at the heart of

all things – always was, always is. Pope Francis makes the point:

Christ's resurrection (he writes) is not an event of the past; it contains a vital power which has permeated this world. Where all seems to be dead, signs of the resurrection suddenly spring up. It is an irresistible force. Often it seems that God does not exist: all around us we see persistent injustice, evil, indifference and cruelty. But in the midst of darkness something new always springs to life and sooner or later produces fruit. However dark things are, goodness always re-emerges and spreads. Each day in our world beauty is born anew, it rises transformed through the storms of history; and human beings have risen time after time from situations that seemed doomed (Evangelii Gaudium, 276).

We are told that the women go to the tomb at dawn – and the dawn is more than physical, just as the darkness which first descended with Judas' betrayal, then shrouded the dark mountain of Calvary and filled the tomb of Jesus was more than physical. The darkness is powerfully symbolic, and so too is the light which comes with the dawn. Once Peter sees the empty tomb and the amazement begins to take hold of him, the new world with its new logic dawns in him and among the Apostles. This is the new world and the new logic of Easter, the revolution of resurrection, which is the very heart of the Church.

The messengers ask the women, “Why look among the dead for someone who is alive?” As long as the disciples remain locked in the old world with its old logic they will always look for Jesus among the dead: after all, they had seen him die and they had seen him laid in the tomb, with the stone at the tomb's entrance seeming



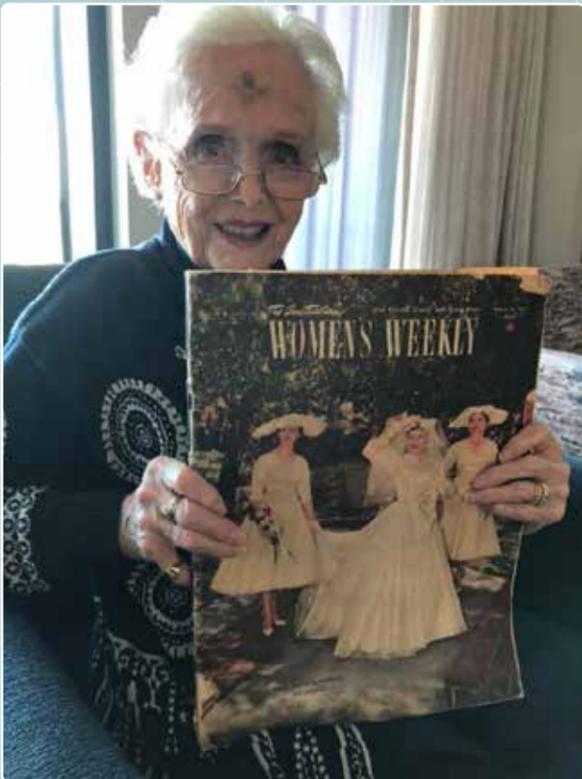
a cosmic full stop. To find Jesus, to encounter him, they must leave the old world with its old logic of death; only then will they enter into that experience of deep amazement which is the Good News, which is Christianity.

What is true of them is also true of us. We can end up looking for Jesus but in the wrong place. We can look for him among the dead, as a figure of the past who left us wise teachings to be accepted or powerful moral examples to be imitated. But if we look only for a teacher or a moral exemplar from the past, we will never encounter the Risen Lord here and now, and Christianity will be no more than a pale moralism or a vapid form of self-improvement. That's what we end up with if we stay locked in the old world with its old logic; and what we end up with is anything but amazing, which is exactly how many people see Christianity.

So on this Easter day we look for Jesus who comes to meet us as we come looking for him. We may begin by looking for him among the dead, but hearing the word of the heavenly messengers, “He is not here; he is risen”, we turn and look for him among the living. That's when he comes to meet us; and in that moment of encounter the amazement that dawned when we first saw the empty tomb and heard of resurrection comes to its fulness. We enter the glorious light of Easter morning where he stands before us, the firstborn from the dead, scars shining like the sun, the living proclamation that “the reign of darkness” (Luke 22:53) is at an end and the reign of God is now here.

TROY TORNABENE - Mission Leader

(Source: brisbanecatholic.org.au/articles/homily-for-easter-sunday-mass-2022/)



Mary with her copy of Women's Weekly (1957) with herself on the cover

STARDOM, GLAMOUR AND A PLEASANT REMINDER OF THE POWER OF FACE TO FACE

Once in a blue moon, you get the chance to meet someone you know you will remember for the rest of your life. For me recently, it was Mary Fitzgerald.



BY JESSE GRAMENZ

About a month ago, I had the pleasure of chatting with Mary at her home in Kew Care Services in Victoria.

I'd reached out after hearing about how Mary was featured on the 1957 cover of Woman's Weekly for her wedding that year.

Truthfully, I had every intention of focussing on that. Talking about the wedding, how she had designed her dress, the theme of the day – but beyond that I learned of someone who had a more than an extraordinary life and story of glitz, glamour, and the big screen that would make even the most unimpressed of souls dizzy with startstruck delight.

Originally Mary Parker, Mary took the last name Fitzgerald when she moved to Australia and married her husband, Paul.

It was a big wedding. A *celebrity wedding* if you like.

"I was well known," she says. "Paul had been hitting the publicity for local for quite awhile."

"Paul painted a few notable people including Prince Philip, but not the Queen, that came later."

The 'Queen' Mary mentioned here was Queen Elizabeth II. Her husband Paul Fitzgerald also painted Pope John XXIII at the Vatican in 1963.

It was at this point chatting with Mary that I realised that perhaps there was more to Mary's story than just a magazine-worthy wedding.

Regardless, Mary continued her story on the steps of the stunning Xavier Chapel in Melbourne with the view of a seething mass of people.

"There it was, all the fans were out there."

"It was a bit like being royalty for five minutes, you know."

"And so when we when we were when we were married, I had been already been on television, and I was, you know, one of the first people ever to go on the screen for a live broadcast. So, in Australia, that is not in England, of course, because. I was quite well known there. But I came out here onto Channel 7 for the Olympics."

Given that Mary had talked about her time on television and film I thought I'd look her up online. And what I found was a delightful throwback to a time of glamour and stardom.

In England Mary starred in multiple films and television shows throughout the 50s.

What I didn't find online, Mary had already filled the gaps for.

"My ambition was to go to the the the Old Vic. I wanted to do Shakespeare. That was my ambition to do classical theater."

"But it all came together to make it a very satisfying life because. I've had so many interests."

Eventually Mary gave up her acting, but she was glad to have had it been her choice and on her terms.

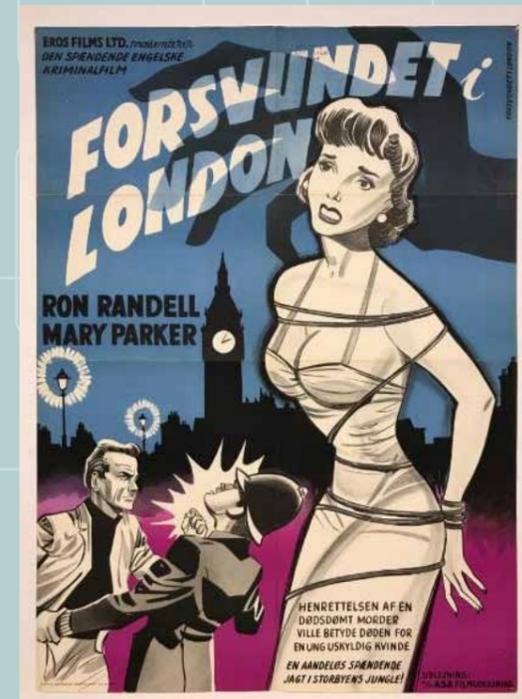
"I often thought you know when meeting actors over the years who've been in the in the game too long and I think, you know, there comes a stage where, you know, some people have to keep on going because it's the 'lure of the grease paint' as they call it. But I was very happy to give it away."

"And take to domesticity and motherhood, and being a wife and I loved it."

What a career for Mary. And what a story.

For me personally, this was one of those chats where I left feeling better than when I came in. Dripping with charisma, Mary telling of her career among the stars was an obvious delight and I hope you felt the same reading about it as well.

If you're wanting to share your story like Mary, ask the staff at your home to reach out to me. I'm always looking for people to write about (plus you don't even have to be a movie star).



Mary starred in quite a few films including 'You Lucky People' (1955) and 'The Deadly Game' (1954). This poster here was for 'The Hostage' (1956)



Paul also painted Mary in a lovely portrait seen here





HOW LUCKY I AM!

BY RESIDENT JOHN

Seriously, there was a time when my image of a “Home for Oldies” was more of a waiting room for the inevitable, final days. This was predicated on my late Mother’s situation in a similar home, but her treatment was nowhere, even marginally, the same, until, in her final months, a change of location made her comfortable.

That view of mine has changed considerably, for the better, having been a residents at 32 Bauer Street, Southport, for a shade over a year and it has been a tough year, for so many people. For you, your relatives, your friends and for the kind and caring staff who have battled on, in spite of reductions and changes, for one reason or another.

Several residents have passed on and are missed and several new people have joined us. Most of us are “of age” and to a large extent, “all in the same boat”, in so many ways.

We are fortunate to have been blessed with a multiplicity of Nationalities in our staff and lately students from “Griffith” as additional nurses and carers, albeit temporary.

They all have lovely first names, which I try to use when I remember them, recalling one of my old professors saying, use them often, because, one of the sweetest sounds, to us, is our own given name.

There’s the diversity of care to be thankful for: Doctors when needed, Nurses, caregivers, Physiotherapists, Lifestyle

Organizers (even a quiet, loving dog) Pastoral caregivers and those “behind the scenes” Cleaners and Laundry, the Cooks and Servers who do the clearing up after meals and the washing up and the great Maintenance and Administrative staff and even a Podiatrist occasionally. Now I have all those amenities and so many new friends!

So, I’m truly grateful, I’m glad I’m here, freely admitting the comfort of not

trying to struggle by, on my own, with no wifely companion, as I did for several years.

How lucky am I?

Southport resident Mr John. F



SUPER STAFF MEMBER

“Maria has been working here for over 25 years and she is an integral part of the team at Yennora.

From signing visitors in, welcoming new residents and visitors each day, answering the never ending phone calls and ensuring RAT tests and check ins are completed.

Maria always goes above and beyond for the residents, staff and families. Yennora would not be the same without her.”

Paula Welfare
Facility Manager
Yennora

APRIL HIGHLIGHTS



Easter and ANZAC Day at St Vincent's

Some of the most important days on the St Vincent's calendar were in April with Easter and ANZAC Day! A great combination of residents honouring friends, family and faith.



Parties at Mitchelton

It was Party-demonium at Mitchelton this month including three 97 year olds and a 96 year old resident. Here's to being young forever.



Joyce turned 95

Joyce from Arundel turned 95 last month and got a pretty sensational looking cake to go along with it.

Pet Visits at Corinda

Miss Frankie came to visit residents at Corinda. She was very polite and loved by all. Although she did try to 'join in' on playing bocce at one stage.





GAMES AND PUZZLES

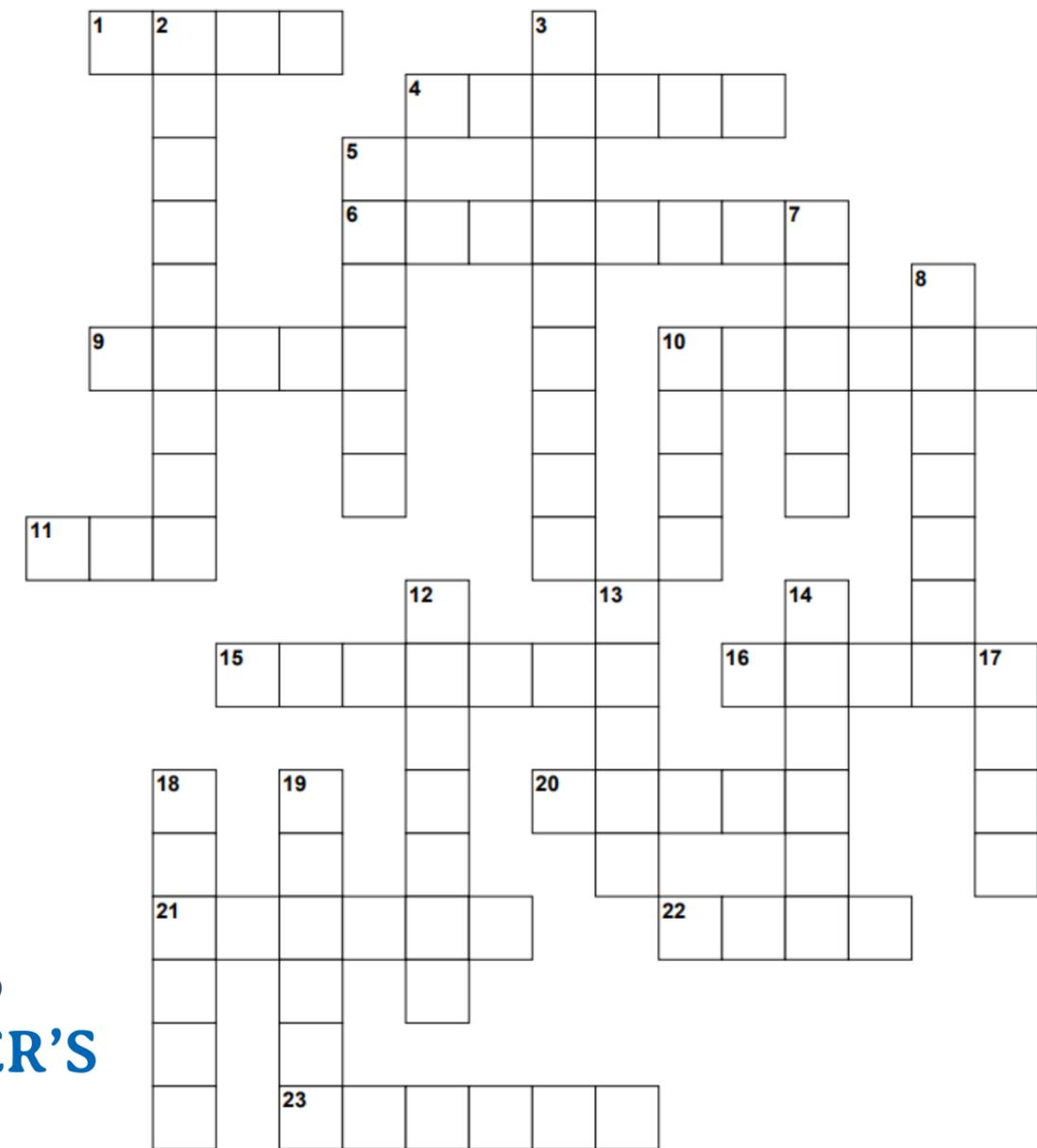
WORD SEARCH

Find the word in the grid. When you are done, the unused letters in the grid will spell out a hidden message. Pick them out from left to right, top line to bottom line. Words can go horizontally, vertically and diagonally in all eight directions.

BABY ANIMALS

I T T A C A L F K E S N
 O J O E Y T T H I N G G
 G S T A W I A Y F T R N
 O G H L N Y M P H A O I
 S N B O U M A K P D P L
 L I A H A O I U U P L K
 I L U C M T P A N O E C
 N G Q N U T O E L L H U
 G D S B E B T A F E W D
 T E L W O T R Y L A O F
 K L I N I V D T R O W A
 N F A K A N I M A F L N

- | | | |
|-----------|---------|---------|
| Calf | Gosling | Owlet |
| Cub | Joey | Poult |
| Duckling | Kit | Pup |
| Fawn | Kitten | Shoat |
| Fledgling | Larva | Squab |
| Foal | Nit | Tadpole |
| Fry | Nymph | Whelp |



CROSSWORD MOTHER'S DAY

ACROSS

- 1 Piece of writing with words that rhyme
- 4 First day of the week
- 6 Call to mind
- 9 Send a letter
- 10 Sound judgment
- 11 Embrace affectionately
- 15 To care for
- 16 Act of bringing a new baby into the world
- 20 Put into the ground to grow
- 21 Female parent
- 22 Printed document sent on a special occasion to a friend
- 23 Area used for growing flowers

DOWN

- 2 Child or descendent
- 3 Expressing warm affection
- 5 Person whom you know well and like and who likes you
- 7 Flowers with thorny stems
- 8 Bunch of flowers
- 10 Female Spouse
- 12 Male person have the same parents as another person
- 13 Young human
- 14 Female having the same parents as another person
- 17 Place where a person lives
- 18 Group made up of parents and their children
- 19 Have extreme fondness



FEEDBACK

Going forward, we would love to encourage residents to submit their own content.

Maybe you're an avid drawer who wants to share their artwork, someone who likes to write a poem or two or you just have a good story you would like to share. All submissions are welcome.

SUBMISSIONS

If you would like to make a submission or provide feedback, please chat to the staff members around you who can pass on your ideas straight to us!
You can also speak with reception staff or email svcs.marketing@svha.org.au.

FEEDBACK

If you have compliments or suggestions about our services, or wish to raise a concern, you can contact our customer care team on 1800 778 767 or reach out to our state managers directly.

- QLD State Manager: nicole.devlin@svha.org.au
- NSW State Manager: sonia.liddell@svha.org.au
- VIC State Manager: bernadette.murphy@svha.org.au

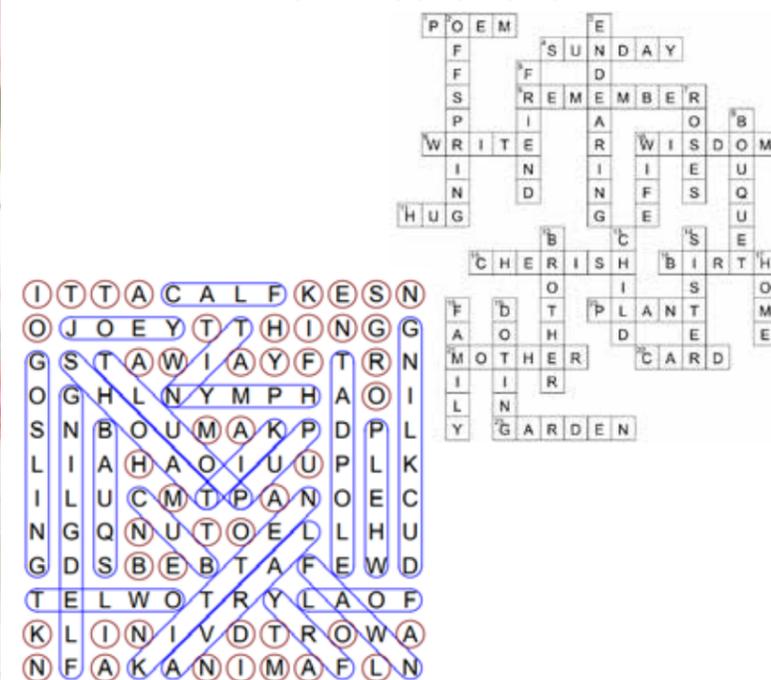
If you speak a language other than English, you can call the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National) on 131 450 for support to talk to your aged care provider about your services.

TIS National covers more than 100 languages and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, for the cost of a local call.

AGED CARE QUALITY

The Australian Government's Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission provides a free service for anyone wishing to raise their concerns about the quality of care or services being delivered to people receiving aged care services at a government-funded facility.

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



TRANSLATION OF COVID-19 RESOURCES

The Department of Home Affairs now has a dedicated website for translated COVID-19 information - <https://covid19inlanguage.homeaffairs.gov.au/>. This website provides culturally and linguistically diverse people with a single source of information in 63 languages other than English.

The following resources have also been translated into 63 different languages:

- Stay COVID Free Do The 3
- Testing for COVID-19
- What you need to know about Coronavirus
- Help for finances and mental health
- Protecting you from Coronavirus
- Easing of Restrictions
- Roadmap to a COVIDSafe Australia
- COVIDSafe app - New tool to help slow the spread of COVID-19

You can also contact the Department of Home Affairs if you believe there is a language that should be translated that is not available. You can email through your suggestions to: agedcareCOVIDliaison@health.gov.au.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS' WEBINAR

We have recently introduced virtual webinars for your family members and friends, to discuss their many ideas, questions and feedback regarding the current COVID situation, as well as your care into the future. We have found these to be another wonderful avenue to connect with our broader St Vincent's community, and understand how we can improve upon our services.

We will keep you posted on any future webinars that we host into the future, so your loved ones can join in.





Please don't hesitate to call

1800 778 767

St Vincent's Care Services

Level 3, East Tower, 25 Montpelier Road

BOWEN HILLS QLD 4006



ST VINCENT'S CARE

Q St Vincent's Aged Care