

**Edition 6**  
April - June 2026

# Warrigal Connection



# Welcome from the CEO

Jenni Hutchins

Hello, and welcome to the second edition of The Warrigal Connection for 2026.

As we reach the halfway point of another exciting year at Warrigal, I'm proud to reflect on the progress we've made in creating vibrant communities where older people can live well, stay connected, and truly feel at home.

While the aged care sector continues to evolve through significant reform and change, our focus remains the same: supporting older people to live the life they choose while continuing to strengthen our organisation for the future.

This quarter has been full of activity across our organisation. From engaging lifestyle programs in our care homes, to celebrating our nurses and volunteers, and recognising the sustainability initiatives led by residents and staff, there's been plenty to celebrate. Inside, you'll also meet some remarkable people, including Andrew from Warrigal Bundanoon, who played a role in helping land Apollo 11 on the moon.

One of our most anticipated projects this year is our brand-new community village, Warrigal Lake South. After years of planning, collaboration, and construction, it's wonderful to see this new community take shape. With construction now nearing completion, we are preparing to welcome our first villagers in the coming months. You'll find more information within, with details about how you register your interest.

I also had the honour of travelling to Singapore alongside our Warrigal Chief of People and Culture, Maree Healey. We were awarded Finalist in the category of Employee Wellbeing category at the 2026 Asia Pacific Eldercare Innovation Awards. Our submission, "Embedding Wellbeing into Culture," recognised the work we've done to move beyond standalone initiatives and embed wellbeing into the way we lead, engage, care and provide services as an organisation. With more than 420 submissions from 16 countries this year, it was an honour to be recognised alongside organisations across the Asia Pacific working to redefine the ageing experience.

I hope you enjoy this edition of The Warrigal Connection and the stories it shares. Each one reflects our ongoing commitment to help older people live the life they choose, supported by dedicated staff, volunteers, families and our wider community. Thank you for being part of that journey.

**Jenni Hutchins**

Warrigal CEO





## Who we are

For nearly 60 years, Warrigal has been dedicated to supporting older people with award-winning aged care services. We're a not-for-profit organisation providing residential aged care, community villages, home services, and social support across the Illawarra, Southern Highlands, Queanbeyan, and Canberra regions.

Warrigal was started by volunteers, and continues to be governed today by a dedicated Board of Directors and Executive team. They are the driving force that steers every level of our organisation, as together, we achieve our vision; a world where older people feel **known, loved, and connected**.

# International Nurses Day



For International Nurses Day this year, Warrigal celebrated not only the nurses that work within our organisation, but also those in the wider community, for the immense difference they make in the lives of older people.

At Warrigal, we are extremely grateful for this difference, and the critical role nurses play in empowering older people across our communities, helping us live out our vision to create a world where older people feel **known, loved, and connected**.

Appreciation was shown across our homes, with many hosting lovely celebrations to share their gratitude.

Thank you to all our nurses for your passion, skill, dedication, and the quality care you provide to a countless number of older people.

# Celebrating Mother's Day



## Warrigal Mount Terry enjoys a high tea!

Our residents at **Warrigal Mount Terry** joined with their loved ones for a beautiful Mother's Day high tea.

With the excitement of a Mother's Day raffle, enjoying excellent live music and delicious treats, and surrounded by wonderful decorations, this was a great way for everyone to come together to mark this special day.



## Warrigal Social Illawarra gets crafty!

**Warrigal Social Illawarra** had a fabulous Mother's Day high tea, complete with delicious treats and wonderful company.

Customers engaged in Mother's Day craft to gift to our residents at Warrigal Albion Park Rail. Together our members made a total of 107 handmade charms, each delivered with a heartfelt message – a lovely gesture to mark a special day.



## Warrigal Stirling relax and celebrate.

**Warrigal Stirling** has been filled with a celebratory atmosphere recently, with our residents and staff joining together for fabulous celebrations to mark Mother's Day!

On Mother's Day, our residents were treated to some massage therapy and a delightful high tea – calling for a relaxing day that was certainly enjoyed by all!

# April Falls

April marked falls prevention month, a national initiative aimed at reducing the likelihood of falls in older people. Throughout the month, residents across our homes and villages participated in a range of fun and practical activities that focused on keeping safe, balanced and steady!



## Italian day at Warrigal Albion Park Rail!

Our **Warrigal Albion Park Rail** residents had a blast at their recent Italian themed day, with great Italian music, a delicious woodfired pizza lunch, and cannoli and gelato for dessert!

A big thank you to the home's wonderful volunteers who made this all possible through the funds raised from the café!



## Warrigal Shell Cove's surprise visitor!

There was no shortage of fun this Easter at our Warrigal residential care homes!

Our residents at **Warrigal Shell Cove** marked the occasion with a delicious lunch and a surprise visit from the Easter bunny.



## Social night at Warrigal Multicultural Village!

Recently, residents, staff and families came together for a fantastic country-themed social night at **Warrigal Multicultural Village**.

Rocking their western-themed outfits, and with fabulous live music and themed decorations, everyone got into the spirit and danced the night away!



Warrigal Coniston hosts

# The Wedding of the Year!

Wedding bells were ringing at **Warrigal Coniston** as the home hosted the celebration of the year – the wedding of Fifi and Oscar, the home's therapy dogs!

Complete with a wedding certificate and all, the festivities consisted of an exchange of collars, bouquet toss, a champagne toast for our residents, cake cutting, live music and karaoke.



# ANZAC Day at Warrigal

Our residents and staff at **Warrigal Stirling** and **Warrigal Goulburn** joined for special ANZAC Day services, commemorating the men and women who served during the war.

Joined by local RSL veterans at Warrigal Stirling, and members from the Rocky Hill War Memorial and Museum at Warrigal Goulburn, these meaningful services offered a shared moment of reflection, paying tribute to the ANZACs.



## Home Services with Warrigal

Did you know that Warrigal offers Home Services across NSW and the ACT?

We have teams in the Illawarra, Southern Highlands, and Queanbeyan who are ready to support you through the next chapter of your life, right in the comfort of your own home.

At Warrigal, we support our customers by providing meal preparation, shopping assistance, domestic duties (cleaning, laundry etc.), personal care, home maintenance, transport, and many more services to ensure they can live happily and safe independently.

For more information, or to make an enquiry, visit our website [here](#).



## April Fool's Day at Warrigal Mt Warrigal!

Residents and staff at **Warrigal Mt Warrigal** got into the party spirit this April Fools' Day with party hats and fun ball games, filling the home with lots of laughter and big smiles.

This was a wonderful opportunity to continue building friendships and the lovely sense of community within the home, and with prizes up for grabs, the festivities were certainly a hit!

# Reconciliation Week at Warrigal Central

For Reconciliation Week, our Support Services Team at **Warrigal Central** had the privilege of hearing from Aboriginal elder, Aunty Marg Campbell. Aunty Marg candidly shared her story about how she was removed from her family at 5 years old, and the displacement she and many other First Nations people have experienced.

Aunty Marg shares her story to increase awareness and understanding of how stories like hers are the reality for many, how this is a part of our shared history, and how we still have further to go. Aunty Marg emphasised the important role we each have in supporting and amplifying the voices of First Nations people to achieve Reconciliation.

Thank you, Aunty Marg, for sharing your story and insights so openly as we work towards a future of greater unity.

This theme this year, 'All In', resonates strongly with Warrigal as we continue taking positive steps towards Reconciliation, including our commitment to cultural training and education.

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NATIONAL  
RECONCILIATION  
WEEK 2026  
27 MAY – 3 JUNE  
**FOR RECONCILIATION**



To mark Reconciliation Week, our **Warrigal Social Goulburn** members visited the National Gallery of Australia in Canberra. Here they were treated to a gallery tour of the impressive displays, including Indigenous art within the Reconciliation Week exhibition, where they learnt about Aboriginal culture and art. The day was topped off with a lovely picnic lunch!

Location Spotlight

The Links  
**SEASIDE**  
by *Warrigal*

**Vibrant. Active. Engaged.**

There's something for everyone at The Links Seaside by Warrigal.

Discover the exceptional location, world-class amenities, and hear what our residents Sue and Paul love most about this exclusive coastal community.

Click **here** to watch the interview.



Warrigal Lake South Community Village

**Live independently today.  
Plan confidently for tomorrow.**

Discover Warrigal Lake South, our brand new village located at 10 Bradman Avenue, Lake Illawarra. Designed for people who want to enjoy their independence now, with the reassurance that support can be arranged if their needs change. Warrigal Lake South offers modern, comfortable villas in a peaceful setting.

Our thoughtfully designed villas feature contemporary amenities and stylish interiors, creating a place where you can feel at home, relax, and enjoy your day-to-day life with ease.

Explore more about Warrigal Lake South by visiting our **website**, emailing **villagesales@warrigal.com.au**, or by calling us on **1800 927 744**.





# Understanding Aged Care Costs

The cost of residential aged care is determined by the type of accommodation you choose and your personal financial situation.

- 1 Getting Started**  
To enter care, an Aged Care Assessment (commonly referred to as an ACAT Assessment) is required.
- 2 Fees & Contributions**  
One of two different types of fee arrangements apply if you enter residential aged care on or after 1 November 2025.

Read our resource [here](#) to learn more about aged care costs.

## Resident Story

# An Interview with Andrew

Recently, we had the pleasure of interviewing Warrigal Bundanoon resident, **Andrew McKean**, to learn more about his fascinating career at the Honeysuckle Creek Space Tracking Station, tracking the Apollo 11 mission to the moon!

Click [here](#) to watch the interview, and learn more about Andrew's interesting experiences, including his unique roles working across the world, his journey learning and teaching the English language, and how he is now enjoying retirement with his wife at Warrigal Bundanoon.

“ We have a lovely café run by the volunteers, so I can sit in there and chat away and tell my jokes. They even laugh at them sometimes! ”



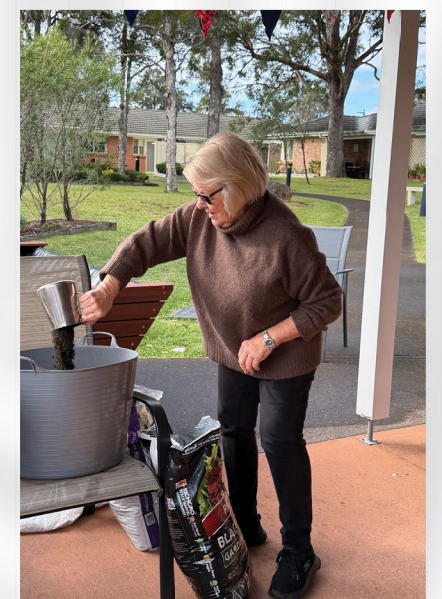
# Garden to Goodness: A New Wellbeing Program at Warrigal Albion Park Rail



Over at **Warrigal Albion Park Rail**, our residents have been keen to use their green thumbs with the recent launch of Garden to Goodness, a new hands-on wellbeing program!

Bringing residents, staff and volunteers together to grow vegetables and herbs, learn new skills and connect with each other, our residents have loved getting involved every Friday. Recently, our community village and care home residents gathered for a lovely morning tea to mark the official launch and to find out more about the program.

Led by a qualified gardener, not only is this a great way to build the wonderful sense of community at Warrigal Albion Park Rail, it's also a meaningful initiative that contributes to a greener home and village, and of course, adds a nice touch to the gardens.



# Celebrating National Volunteer Week

During National Volunteer Week, Warrigal held two special luncheons to celebrate the remarkable team of over 600 volunteers that work across our Northern and Southern locations.

Our volunteers were recognised and cheered on for their significant service milestones ranging from 5-20 years – a commitment underpinned by selflessness and compassion.

A big congratulations to **Pauline**, one of our Warrigal Mt Warrigal volunteers of over 19 years (Northern winner), and **Janice**, one of our Warrigal Bundanoon volunteers of over 11 years (Southern winner, pictured), for being awarded the Norm Rowland Award.

This award recognises a volunteer for the difference they make in shaping the care experience of our residents. Thank you, Pauline and Janice, for your generosity and the amazing difference you each make!

Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers for the time you give to make our residents feel **known**, **loved**, and **connected**.



# Centenarian Birthdays



This quarter, three of our beloved Warrigal residents turned 100! Each resident celebrated this amazing milestone with their family, friends and care staff at their home. Keep reading to see how each resident celebrated their special day!



## Marie - Warrigal Goulburn

Marie was joined by her family and fellow residents at **Warrigal Goulburn** for a special morning tea to celebrate turning 100. Being a keen scrabble player and spending most of her afternoons playing with friends in the café, the board game certainly had to feature within the party decorations!



## Una - Warrigal Albion Park Rail

Una shared her words of wisdom during her special birthday morning tea with family and was gifted a beautiful bouquet of flowers from residents and staff at **Warrigal Albion Park Rail**.



## Walter - Warrigal Goulburn

Enjoying Bing Crosby tunes and his favourite cake, a jam and cream sponge, Walter enjoyed a lovely morning tea celebration with family and staff from **Warrigal Goulburn**.



# What's been happening at Warrigal Social?

## A wonderful visit to the Crookwell Sock Factory

A highlight at Warrigal Social over the last few weeks was the visit to the Crookwell Sock Factory – a fan favourite!

The day consisted of a factory tour and an interactive experience, where our members found out more about the factory's history and watched the process of socks being made.



## State of Origin: Blues vs. Maroons.

Warrigal Social were sure to mark State of Origin with a celebration of all things football including trivia, fun facts and themed snacks.

Interested in joining in the fun? Visit our website [here](#) to find out more about how you can become part of our Warrigal Social Goulburn or Illawarra service.



# Warrigal Locations



Warrigal



# Help shape the next edition!

We'd love your feedback on what you'd like to see in the next edition of The Warrigal Connection. Have a story to share or topics you'd love us to cover? Let us know by emailing [communityrelations@warrigal.com.au](mailto:communityrelations@warrigal.com.au)



warrigal.com.au

A world where older people feel **known, loved, and connected.**

*Warrigal*