

# Japanese Visitors

12 staff from the Centre for Social Welfare promotion and National Examination in Japan visited Epping Manor on 11th Septemeber 2019

When the visitors arrived at Epping Manor they were greeted by Graham Hooper (CEO) and Shane Nisha (Operations Manager).



# Continued...

The day followed the below programme:  
- CEO spoke about Roles of Retirement Villages & Village overview including activities/programs to keep residents' functional level.  
- The visitors each stood up and asked questions to Vasey staff and management  
- Tour of the village  
- Interaction with residents where visitors practiced their english language skills.  
- Visitors taught some residents how to do origami.  
- The visitors performed some traditional dances and sang with the residents who chose to join in.  
- Vasey provided a morning tea to all who attended.

The visitors from Japan also brought a translator with them to help with communication.

# The Vasey Voice.



Some wonderful residents enjoying the train in The Hunter Valley Gardens

# Puzzle.

# Santa Word Search

- Chimney

Elves

Fairies

Jolly

North Pole

Reindeer
- Rudolph

Sled

Sleigh

Sleigh Bells

St. Nick

Toys



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

Resident inserts:

In the coming year we would love to showcase how talented our residents are. If you have a painting, drawing, a talent or a craft you would like to share please

contact Kelsey to figure out how best to show off what you can do.

Or if there are any topics you would like covered or written about please let us know.

# Upcoming Morning & Afternoon Teas.

All Vasey residents are encouraged to attend regular afternoon or morning tea to discuss items relating to those living in the villages. Participating in these casual get togethers will give you the opportunity to provide feedback on the care and services we provide and have your say. Its also a great way to keep staff and management familiar with residents we may not see often. The events listed below are open to all residents in all villages.

Epping.

5th February 2020 at 10.30am  
8th April 2020 at 10.30am

Maroubra.

5th February 2020 at 2.30pm  
8th April 2020 at 2.30pm

Lane Cove.

12th February 2020 at 10.30am  
15th April 2020 at 10.30am

Hunters Hill.

12th February 2020 at 10.30am  
15th April 2020 at 10.30am

We hope to see you all there.

# Chairman.

As many of you may already know, I have taken up the role of Chair in August this year as Keith Schollum has served his maximum term of five years. I would like to thank Keith for his leadership of the association and am pleased that he will continue as a valued director on the Vasey Board.

For those of you who do not know me, my name is Kate Gunton and I have been working with the Board since 2016. I look forward to continuing to support Graham and the team in delivering a great service to all of you.

In October the directors visited a number of villages to take a firsthand look at the renovations and maintenance that has been set up to market the Kokoda Residences in Waitara. Construction of the new village is set to commence in 2020.

It has been wonderful to hear about the many activities and outings that Kelsey has been arranging over the course of the year.

I am pleased this has enabled many of you to connect with your neighbours and enrich the Vasey community. Providing support for each other is a great way to promote active living and well-being and I encourage you all to join in and participate as much as you can.

I enjoyed seeing many of you at the annual Christmas Luncheon. It is always a wonderful event and is so great to see all our villages come together to celebrate the Vasey community.

On behalf of the Board I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy new year. Stay safe and enjoy the festive season.

Kate Gunton.  
Chairman.



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# CEO.

Welcome to the Summer edition of the Vasey Voice.

Firstly, a big welcome to Kate Gunton as the recently elected Chair of Vasey. Kate has been a director since 2016 and is passionate about seeing Vasey continue to provide the best service possible to existing and future residents. With a background in architecture, Kate, has been invaluable in her assistance with the design and development of the new Kokoda Residences at Waitara.

I also wish to take this opportunity to say a personal thank you to Keith Schollum our outgoing Chairman. Keith has provided a steady hand and strong leadership during his five year tenure having overseen the continued strengthening of the Board and the Management team setting Vasey on a firm foundation for future growth.

Thank you to all who attended the annual resident Christmas party, it was great to see so many people enjoying themselves, with good food, good music and dancing. Topped off with the special guest appearance of two very familiar looking Christmas elves! This year we trialled a new venue at the Kirribilli Club and the initial feedback has been overwhelmingly positive.

Our annual residents survey will be conducted in April/May next year. We will again participate as part of the National Village Survey which will be undertaken across the country. We encourage all residents to participate in the survey as it provides invaluable information in helping us to continue to improve our services.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Vasey staff team for another great year and for their dedication to their jobs and to all residents.

Thank you Shane, Bob, Nancy, Kelsey, Graham and Aki, you certainly make my job a lot easier and it is very much appreciated.

Finally, a very Merry Christmas and enjoyable enjoyable New Year to all and safe travel for those that are venturing further afield.

Thanks,

Graham Hooper.



## Jessie Vasey.

Jessie Mary Vasey (1897- 1966), founder of the War Widows' guild of Australia, was born on 19th October 1897 at Roma, Queensland, eldest of three daughters of Australian-born parents Joseph Halbert, farmer and grazier, and his wife Jessie, nee Dobbin. Young Jessie attended Moreton Bay Girls' High School, Brisbane. After the family moved to Melbourne in 1911, she was sent to Lauriston Girls' school and Methodist Ladies' College. While studying at the University of Melbourne (B.A. Hons, 1921), she lived at Trinity College Hostel (later Janet Clarke Hall). On 17 May 1921 at St Matthew's Church of England, Glenroy, Jessie married George Alan Vasey, an army officer; they were to have two sons. An outspoken woman, she loved literature and archeology, and earned a reputation

as a bluestocking. She assumed her role as a solidiers' wife with confidence and ease, and became an accomplished hostess. George's service entailed frequent moves; in 1928-29 and 1934-37 the family was based in India. By the eve of World War 2 they were back in Victoria, where they bought a property at Wantirna, in the foothills of the Dandenong Ranges. When George sailed for the Middle East in December 1939, Jessie threw her energies into the war effort. Having become involved in the Australian Comforts Fund, she served as a secretary of the Australian Imperial Force Women's Association, a body which sought to help soldiers' wives and widows. Her work made her familiar with war widows'



## Jessie cont'd

financial and emotional burdens, and moved her to ameliorate their plight. She had a keen sense of the particular anguish of women whose husbands had been killed accidentally rather than in action. In a twist of cruel irony, her own husband was killed in an aeroplane crash in March 1945. On their last evening together, he had told her: "Stick to the war widows and when I come back you shall have every atom of help I can give". In October 1945 Mrs Vasey wrote to all Victorian war widows, urging them to attend a meeting to form a craft guild. About three hundred did so. On 22 May 1946 the War Widows' Craft Guild held its first meeting, with Vasey as president. She set about making the guild a national organization and travelled extensively. Branches were formed in New South Wales, South Australia and Western Australia in 1946, in Tasmania and Queensland in 1947, and in the Australian Capital Territory in 1951. In November 1947 Vasey had convened a national conference which adopted a federal constitution and formed the War Widows' Guild of Australia. She was elected its president.

To be continued in the next edition of the Vasey Voice.

## Image Gallery.



Patricia enjoying the scenes at The Three Sisters.



Bessie getting her feet wet in Cronulla



Gerrard in The Hunter Valley Gardens



## A note from Nancy.

We are at the end of another great year at Vasey Communities. I hope you enjoy the Christmas and New Year festivities and take good care over the Summer season. Remember to keep cool and hydrated during the hot weather. Dehydration can increase the risk of falls and ill health. I would also like to remind all residents to regularly check the village folder and the notice boards in the common room for updated information.

If you need grab rails in the bathroom or at the front door entry, there is a notice in the village folder under Minor Home Modifications explaining how to go about it. If you need help, I am happy to go through the process with you and liaise with health professionals on your behalf.

Wishing you all a happy and safe Summer season!!  
Nancy Stjepanovic,  
Resident Services Manger

## Kelseys Corner

Hi All,

It has been the first full year with social outings/ activities in Vasey. Thank you to everyone who has participated or even just taken the time to get to know a neighbor a bit more than before. You would be surprised how a simple "hello how are you?" can make someones day.

As always suggestions and ideas are welcome and with 2020 being a blank canvas we would love your contributions more than ever. Whether it's a trip or activity you would like to see in your village.

The Christmas party on the 4th of December was a huge success. Myself and elf Nancy thoroughly enjoyed the festivities so I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who came along and joined in on the fun.

I would also like to thank our CEO Graham who has made all the activities and trips possible.

With that being said I would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.