



HIGHLIGHTS FROM LAST QUARTER:

Happy Hanukkah — Page 1.

From the Chair — Page 2.

Sukkot Lunch — Page 4.

Marketing — Page 5.

Joke Corner— Page 5.

Around Shalom Court— Page 6.

Melbourne Cup Day — Page 7.

Happy Hanukkah

Hanukkah, (Hebrew: “Dedication”) also spelled Hanukka, Chanukah, or Chanukkah, also called Feast of Dedication, Festival of Lights, or Feast of the Maccabees,

Jewish festival that begins on Kislev 25 (usually in December, according to the Gregorian calendar) and is celebrated for eight days. Hanukkah reaffirms the ideals of Judaism and commemorates in particular the rededication of the Second Temple of Jerusalem by the lighting of candles on each day of the festival.

Although not mentioned in the Hebrew Scriptures, Hanukkah came to be widely celebrated and remains one of the most popular Jewish religious observances. Hanukkah is celebrated from Monday, December 19 to Monday, December 26 in 2022.

From the Chair

This is our last FOSCA newsletter for 2022, and as we all keep saying, where has the year flown? This is the fourth newsletter for the year, and our aim is to send them out quarterly to our dear FOSCA members. The next ones will be February 2023/May 2023/September 2023 and December 2023.

Firstly and very importantly, I have the great pleasure of informing you that Shalom Court is 100% full, with a waiting list of 10 people. I would like to reiterate that none of our 26 current residents are from Mercy Parklands, but are from the general community, including two from a retirement facility that could no longer help with their needs. However, with the imminent closure of Mercy Parklands, 8 of the 10 people on the waiting list are from there, but unfortunately, we are not in a position to help them at this time. We truly empathise with these people and their families, having to search for a bed somewhere else.

In November we welcomed Betty Adams (from Christchurch) who was heavily involved with both the Dunedin and Christchurch Jewish communities. At the young age of 99yrs, Betty is a very welcome addition to our family at Shalom Court, and manoeuvring her admittance to us, was quite a challenge. We also welcomed Rona Saul who after a short stint at respite care at Shalom Court, decided that she would also like to join our family. Both ladies have wonderful rooms in Fisher House and their joining us has meant that we now have 10 Jewish residents.

Special mention should be made to Rhoda Montgomery who after a 2 year break (more or less) after 17 years of wonderful work at Shalom Court, has returned to us after we lured her out of retirement. Rhoda is simply 'gold' and most of you will have met her in the past, or seen her around in the past few weeks. We are so very grateful to have her back!

On behalf of Shalom Court's boards, I would like to wish you all a very happy Hannukah, a fabulous and safe festive season and all the very best for all of us in 2023.

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Esther Haver, Chair



For those of you who have passed by or visited, our new signage both outside and in, is truly stunning. We have chosen to go for a green colour, as research of local aged care facilities, showed a dominance of blue. Our marketing company (Inspiration Point) has been exemplary in all the work they have done for us, and if you have the time, please check out our new website to see for yourself. Additionally, Chris Harris (from our Board) has worked hand in hand with them, and his expertise and professionalism has been very much appreciated. Chris also edits and has designed FOSCA newsletter "FOCUS" so get in touch if you want to know more.

The gardens are in full bloom – I would like to share with you what our resident Leslie Mack said to me most recently when sitting in his wheelchair in Phillip House lounge. He was facing the Gertie Blumenfeld Memorial Garden and commented that he gets a great deal of pleasure looking at the garden. It reminded him of his own garden at his old home in St Mary's Bay, where he said garden tours would come to enjoy. That is truly a huge compliment for us and kudos again to Christine Hanley who created this beautiful space.

Half of the downstairs units that were obsolete have been upgraded by the Trust Board and will shortly be ready for rental. We are aiming for 55yrs+ people to enjoy at a weekly rental. Also, the new roofs over the Shalom Court lower lounge, units 1 & 2 and separately, units 11-16 look spectacular.

Our recent Sukkot luncheon was a big success – see photos in this edition. Our very own Michal did such a wonderful job of catering and everyone simply raved about the food! Our next function will be an afternoon tea for residents and their families in the new year, and I am also organising two Kosher luncheons (February and March) in the lower lounge for two VIP visitors.

Chair report continued..

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Shalom Court is constantly evolving and it's been a tremendously busy year with so much happening. A special huge thank you to my Board members (George Erdos, Louise Vidak, Chris Harris, Judi Lubetzky, Inge Kronquist and Adele Hirsh) for their tireless work.

Thank you also to the Entertainment committee who quietly work in the background.

Thank you to the Trust Board's constant back up (Jack Porus, Anna Nathan and Matthew Ross) who have our best interests at heart.

We couldn't operate so well without our fantastic staff, lead by Marc, and of course to HBH for their management.

On behalf of Shalom Court's boards, I would like to wish you all a very happy Hannukah, a fabulous and safe festive season and all the very best for all of us in 2023.



Flowers and cheese cake from grateful family of Ema Tsuni-Rex who passed away a year ago (20/10/21)



Some wee birds make their annual return to the garage

Sukkot Luncheon



Our recent Sukkot luncheon was a big success. Our very own Michal did such a wonderful job of catering and everyone simply raved about the food!

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Esther Haver, Chair



Warmest Wishes

Website and Marketing

Greetings to all FOSCA members, Esther asked me to write a follow up on my previous article on what is happening in marketing for Shalom Court. It has been an amazing past 6 months, we have officially launched the new website so when you get a chance have a look. We are launching our Facebook and Instagram accounts so make sure you become a follower and look out for all of the great things that are happening at Shalom Court.

On behalf of Jocelyn and I it has been a real pleasure and honour to be part of this journey that Shalom Court is on, it has taken a lot of hours and our creative juices have been pushed to the limit but it was all worth it in the end.

I would love to hear from you and your opinions are so important, or if you have suggestions for our social media that would be wonderful, or maybe you have a special story or photo that you would like to share in the newsletter then please do send it to me at shalomcourtmedia@gmail.com

Thank you to the supporters and board for entrusting us to provide something that the community should be proud of and I look forward to hearing from you.

Chris Harris

On behalf of Jocelyn and I
it has been a real pleasure
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Chris Harris,
Board Member-Marketing



JOKE CORNER



Carpark

A man had eight o'clock reservations at a downtown restaurant. It was nearly eight and he couldn't find a single parking spot. He circled around the block with no luck. Finally, he called out "God, please help me find a parking space!" Still no luck.

"G-d, if you give me parking spot, I'll go to shul every day."

No spot.

"G-d, I'll keep kosher!"

All of a sudden, right in front of the restaurant, a car pulled out - leaving a large parking space. Eagerly, the man maneuvered into it, while calling out, "Never mind G-d, I found one!"

Lottery Ticket

All his life, Shloime hoped to win the lottery. Each week, he'd pray to G-d intently, pleading that this be the week he'd finally win.

For years he prayed for the lottery - but he never won.

Finally one day, in the middle of Shloime's fervent prayers, a heavenly voice was heard in the synagogue: "Shloime, buy a ticket already!"

The Hanukkah Bush

Admiring the Christmas trees displayed in his neighbour's windows, Nathan asks his father, 'Daddy, can we have a Hanukkah bush?'

'What? No, of course not.' says his father.

'Why not?' asks Nathan again.

A little agitated, his father replies, 'Well, Nathan, the last time we had dealings with a bush that was lit up, we spent 40 years in the wilderness.'

Happenings around Shalom Court



Happy

DIWALI



Happy Birthday
CHARLOTTE



Hugh Hickman (respite resident) playing the piano that had been tuned that morning (thanks to Wendy Walsh for donating the cost of the tuner)





Melbourne Cup Day Poem

Al like the riders
Clad in rose and blue;
Their colours glitter
And their horses too.
Swift go the riders
On incarnate speed.
My thought can scarcely
Follow where they lead.
Delicate, strong, long
Lines of colour flow,
And all the people
Tremble as they go.

Lesbia Harford

Hats were worn, bets were
placed, and racing was had, it
could only be the Melbourne
Cup Day.

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