



Home Sweet Home

St Sergius
AGED CARE

Residential Care | CHSP | Independent Living Units
Trading as: Russian Relief Association of St. Sergius of Radonezh

Newsletter Summer 2023

At a Glance:

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- Maslenitsa
- Celebrating Birthdays



Ignjatic Radmila

The greeting of the New Year is one of the favourite happenings in St Sergius. Our grey-haired residents are young at heart and retain the hopes and wishes we all share that this day is the bringer of surprises, gifts, fulfilment of wishes and magic.



Olga Milic, Biserka Mitrovic with Nevenka Scoric



Branislava Ilic



Milka Tomic, Jelena Culibrk with Irina Malanyak



Danilo Skopelja

Catholic Christmas

With the coming of the last days of December, the daily life of the residents becomes infused with the magic atmosphere of the coming of the Christmas season, starting with the celebrations according to the New Calendar, used by all non-Orthodox Christians Orthodox.



Virgina Do Rego



Residents with father Dionisy



Residents with father Djuro



Galina Cherkasov

Orthodox Christmas

The Orthodox Christmas, in the first week of January, is a wonderful uplifting occasion for the faithful, reinforcing the love of life and of other beings. It is because of these values that the Holy Days of Christmas have for centuries been awaited with anticipation and greeted and celebrated with great gusto and heartfelt joy.

Many residents started the Christmas day by lighting candles and offering prayers in the cosy chapel on the ground floor of our facility, others watched church services on-line. Every resident was given an opportunity to commune with a priest, so important for some on such an occasion.

The religious rites were followed by a joyful and full day of celebrations.



Peter Gileff, Peter Metlenko and Taisa Sagoian



Danica Babic with medical staff

New Year Celebration

The greeting of the New Year is one of the favourite happenings in St Sergius. Our grey-haired residents are young at heart and retain the hopes and wishes we all share that this day is the bringer of surprises, gifts, fulfilment of wishes and magic.

To enhance this positive spirit our Recreation Activity Officers prepared an uplifting program to help the residents return to their younger days and re-enter the magical attractions of a New Year celebration. Residents enjoyed delicious with special sweets and quizzes with interesting prizes, stories of New Year celebration traditions in other parts of the world and, of course, raising their glasses of 'bubbly' while wishing their friends and neighbours a "Happy New Year!!"



Nikola Pucar Lilia Balen



Alexandr Yakimov



Olga Petlevanny



Srdj Olujic, Dusan Strbac and Julia Fahey



Chinese New Year celebration

Chinese New Year

The celebration of the Chinese New Year has become somewhat of a tradition at St Sergius over the past few years. For many of our residents born and bred in the Celestial Kingdom this is not just another 'show' but a brief return to the culture which surrounded them for an important part of their life and brings back memories and emotions of their experiences in that country. For those residents of different backgrounds, the day's program was an opportunity to enjoy the colour and spectacle of the events organised for them. These included Chinese, Uighur, Mongolian and Russian Dances and songs performed by our in-house artists in a dazzling variety of colourful costumes.



Alija Aminova



Larysa Zhuravlyova



Radojka Vujovic with Jovanka Micic



Slavka Nedanovska



Merry celebration



With friends

Day Center Chinese New Year celebrations.

The Chinese New Year is a festival of the coming of Spring and the start of the New Year according to the Lunar Calendar. In the Chinese tradition this is also the time for family reunions and food feasts, with dumplings being the focus.

This sort of family-oriented celebration is dear to the heart of the Day Centre Clients – after all, many of them came to Australia from China. Coming together in our community centre, they are bonded by their activity of making the best dumplings for themselves and their friends, and sharing memories of their lives in China.



Cooking class



In a fun mood



Cooking dumplings

The process of making the dumplings is a joint effort of the Day Centre staff, who provide the basic ingredients and the clients who bring their own favourite 'special ingredients'. In fact the whole process becomes not just a routine, but a creative process which allows each person to add their own bit of magic to the little parcel of 'goodies' packaged in a little bit of dough symbolizing their specific wishes for luck, health and wealth.

The logical conclusion to the celebration is a happy gathering around the dining table, enjoying the dumplings to the accompaniment of amusing tales, jokes and laughter



Waiting for tea



Cooking with pleasure



Our ladies at Marconi club

The everyday life of our residents must be as comfortable as possible, full of attention and recreation which brings them pleasure. Activities such as board games improve the attention span and memory; Cooking and art activities enhance fine motor skills and imagination; and entertaining presentations engender positive emotions.



Zoya Shirshova



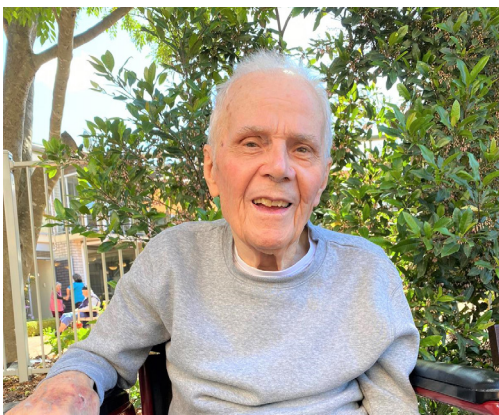
Rufina Nicholson



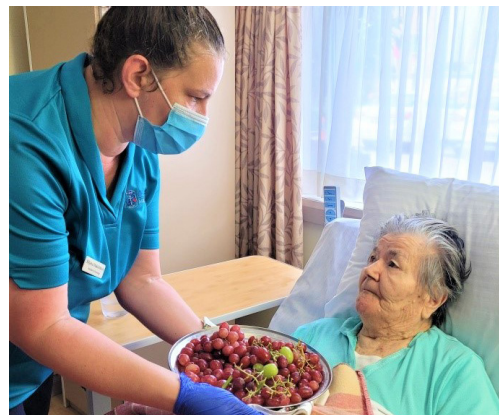
Ruzica Dopudj



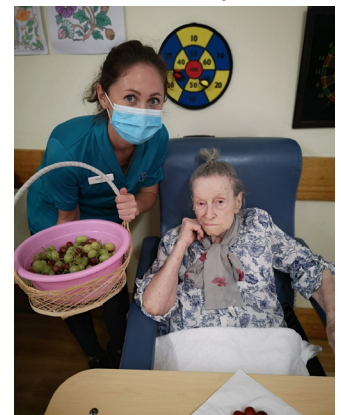
Petar Dinic and Yury Boudkin



Gavriilo Radeka



Jelena Saponja with Biljana Maksovic



Khana-Riva Panteleva and A.Chertopolohova



Milan Ajdukovic



Petar Jaksic



Marija Gusa



Janina Janiszka



Milka Tomic



Cooking class



Slobodanka Djuric



Wei Man Liang



Peter Gileff with Natalie Demidov



Christina Ortner and Vera Semerich



Zora Dajic



George Petrow



Australia Day Celebration

Australia Day

The celebration of Australia Day is an upbeat occasion which seems to turn the clock back for people of middle and senior age to the time of their youth when they marked that day at a noisy family barbeque or spent a care-free day on a beach with their friends.



Agneza Sinkovich



Baint Toth

On the actual Australia Day, our RAOs organise gatherings of the residents in surroundings decorated to highlight the unique Australian nature and to discuss how much the Aboriginals are part of this nature, or 'Country', and what 'Country' means to their spirituality.



Nick Sposobin

Exhibition

The exhibition of Venetian Dolls, from the Liliya Balen collection, took place on 10 February a date that is significant to the collector, as it was exactly 30 years ago that she made the acquaintance of her first resplendent venetian, was immediately captivated and acquired that splendid treasure.

A corner of one of the common rooms was turned into enchanting Venice, which soon attracted the curiosity of our residents and soon a steady parade of the curious was there to wonder at the beauty of the exhibits and the magnificence of dolls' costumes.



Marina Kirpichnikov



Olga Pronin



Veronika Kaskanlian and Maria Shlepov



Vukosava Glavas with Natalia An



The lecture about Valentine's Day



Rosa and Stevan Calic

St Valentine's Day

On this day, it is time for gentle reminiscing, smiles and warm greetings. The traditional heart-shaped red cards, or Valentines, in the hands of our ladies have become not only symbols of the day, but also a symbol of the ageless youth of their hearts.

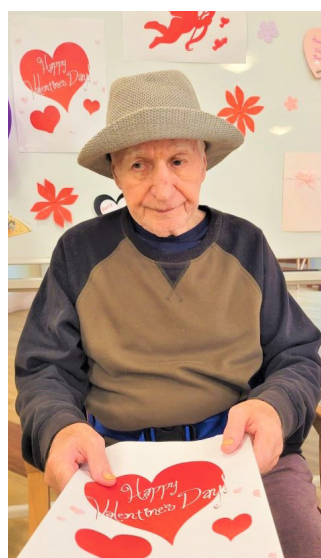
Every resident received a Valentine, but the warmers attention was directed at the family couples living at St Sergius, who have carried the Valentine spirit throughout their years together. Deep affection, understanding and love colours the lives of a person at any age – "Stefan and I have been married for 56 years, I am so glad that we are celebrating this day together" confirms Roza Kalich. Such stories always invoke warm respect; however, it is stories of the romances of famous people that spark the most interest. This year a lecture/discussion of the relationships of two famous painters, Picasso and Salvador Dali and their Russian partners, wives and muses



Tatia Filippoff



Valentine's Day celebration



Nikolay Sorokin



Lubica Rak



Maslenitsa celebration



Dobrinka Lubarda

Maslenitsa

The carnival of 'Maslenitsa' is the Russian equivalent of the English Shrove Tuesday, except that the carnival lasts for a week!

The carnival has a long Slavic history, going back to pagan times and is a spirited celebration of spring marked by feasting on pancakes.

The main event of the week was held in the gaily decorated common room and the guests were greeted by a Russian folk 'dance in the round', or khorovod accompanied by folk songs which greeted the Spring, performed by our hard-working Recreation staff dressed in colourful costumes.



Nina Grabovskaya



Mirko Susak with Alla Lyubomskaya



Milka and Djuro Miljevic with Su Rakhmatullaeva



Galina and Alexandr Fonarev with Recreation staff



Galina Verhoturova with Olga Suvorova

Birthday celebrations

As described in previous newsletters, St Sergius has established a traditional way of celebrating resident's Birthdays. These celebrations are held each month and acknowledge and congratulate those residents whose Birthdays fall within the month. The Guests of Honour are feted with a special Tea with Birthday cakes and special wishes from their neighbours and, of course, the staff.

December

Rosa Calic, Dobrinka Lubarda, Lina Jin, Branislava Ilic, Danilo Skopelua, Youel Zordan, Deljo Kalavazov, Nikola Pucar, Jovanka Micic, Cecil Block, Vinka Ivanovic



Branislava Ilic with friends and staff



Liudmila Billionok

January

Stevanija Pupovac, Galina Bolodskaya, George Petrow, Olga Matwejew, Nina Erohin, Alexandre Fonarev, Liudmila Billionok, Petar Jaksic, Spasenija Radmanovic, Marija Kresovic, Danica Babic, Kirilo Nasteski



Agnes Domansky



Roza Calic and Danica Romic

February

Vera Stojanovski, Dusan Reljic, Agnes Domansky, Marina Kirpichnikov, Mihajlo Zaric, Jelena Culibrk, Luba Klunicki, Tania Filipoff, Ca Lai(Ca), Bozica Vesic, Dragoje Kos, Leanne Billett



Danica Babic



IN THE NEXT ISSUE:

International Women's Day

Easter Celebration

Mother's Day

April Fool's Day

International Nurses Day

Celebrating Birthdays

If you are thinking about placing your loved one in St Sergius Aged Care Facility, we are happy to answer all your questions about that on the phone number below.

We welcome the new volunteers. Your help will be highly appreciated. Our residents require more attention, love and emotional assistance. If you like to become a volunteer, send us E-mail below. We will get in touch with you as soon as possible.

Writer and editor Julia Medvedeva. Photography N. An, J.Fahey, I. Malaniak, Su Rakhmatullaeva, O. Suvorova, L. Balen, A.Chertopolohova, I. Jarrett, A. Lyubomskaya, B.Maksovic, J.Jovanovic. Thank you to the administration and the staff of RRA for the help and support. Special thank you to Michael Apollonov for the help with the English version of the magazine.



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