



Nunyar House
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19th December 2021

This newsletter could have many titles:

“I can’t believe it’s been a year since the last newsletter”
“Living and working in a pandemic”
“Who ate all the Tim Tams?”

In last email I was reflecting on how we had survived 2020 and our “once in a hundred years pandemic” and all the changes we had made to deal with this. It is ironic that more than a year later it is only now that we are starting to see our first real cases now that the state has opened up after reaching the >80% hypothetical “safe to do so” vax rate. South Australia has been lucky indeed but I fear the real challenges lie ahead. I am not too afraid of the virus as I have faith in the vaccine. I do worry about the impact it may have on running of business now with a real fear that every day we could receive notice that we have been a close exposure site and must shut up shop and isolate. I also worry about the collateral damage of Covid with a move to use telephone or telehealth in some instances, potentially compromising consumer assessments. I see a divide in our community, so called freedom marches which in some instances have turned violent.

Anyway, life has continued at Nunyar. We have “Covid marshals” and have got used to asking our consumers Covid screening questions. We QR check in, sanitize with alcohol on the inside as well as the outside, and have been wearing masks for what feels like months. Our waiting room remains spaced out and free of reading material. We have had some staffing changes. Dr Nitesh Rao finished up with us as he took on additional public hospital FTE and had to cut back on his private commitments. We wish Nitesh well and hope he will return one day or point a nephrologist colleague in our direction to fill the much needed space in Gawler.

Peter Grieve, clinical psychologist has joined us from Bridge Psychologists and consults on Mondays and Wednesdays. We’ve made his room more cozy and ensured that there is always coffee in the pot. Pete drives the big truck in the car park and loves going bush off the beaten track when he gets the opportunity.



Our beloved Sue Ingham who had been with us at Nunyar for about 11 years and almost since our opening day retired at the end of financial year. We believe Sue is spending even more time than ever above the skies of Gawler as an active instructor at the Gawler Flying Club. We had a lovely farewell evening earlier this year and it was great to have Parind and Raj attend who worked with Sue on Tuesdays.



Lisa and Alex have been doing a great job sharing the Admin responsibilities at the rooms and don’t complain too much about my late finishes on Monday, Thursday and Friday evenings. To sweeten the deal we’ve added a new tradition of Thursday Gin night and Friday beer night. I’m not sure if this is more for me or them, but it certainly is a highlight of getting to the finish line on those long days.



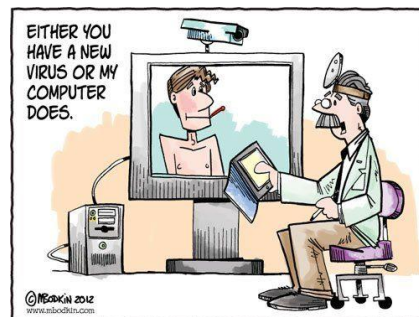
the succulents in the drainage pit. Feel free to take some cuttings home. They make great ground cover. Our Nunyara House sign was a casualty on one of our windy days. Thank you to Alex's husband Sean who fixed it up at "mate's rates". Alex makes almost as good a tradie's assistant as she does receptionist!



Trips away have been limited with border closures and travel restrictions. Earlier this year when Queensland announced travel without restrictions Alex took a last minute holiday to get her sun and beach fix, managing to return without having to self-isolate and extend her leave. I was lucky to take 2 weeks to ride the Mawson trail to Blinman in the Flinders Ranges and back, but not before having a nasty accident in July. I'm making a slow but good recovery and my surgeon assures me that my clavicle won't break again for a while... as the saying goes, "Doctors don't make good patients".

Moving forward we are hoping for not too many surprises in 2022. I hope our service remains Covid free and we can continue to provide excellent care to our consumers. I will have to look into opportunities for Telehealth given proposed Medicare Item number changes for telephone consultations which look like they will be coming to an end next year which makes no sense what so ever. Please do not hesitate to contact Alex or myself if you have any concerns or suggestions for the rooms.

Wishing you and your families and loved ones a safe and happy Christmas and year ahead.



Outside our garden is looking great thanks to our resident gardener Tony. The Grevilleas on the 20th St side of the house have gone nuts, as have

Kind Regards,

Anthony Zimmermann

Nunyara: Restored to Health