



Nunyara House
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In our last newsletter in January I was reflecting that 2020 had brought an anxious start to the year with all of Australia's bushfires! Those fires seem a distant memory although California's current inferno is a reminder, and with the weather starting to warm up again, I hope everyone is on their guard again for this summer.

By February we were all optimistic of a positive year ahead. Unfortunately for many of us, those anxieties have been replaced by another, Covid 19, our first global pandemic in 100 years! Never before have I felt so fortunate to be an Aussie, and better still a South Aussie. We have been very lucky with how the situation has been handled by our local health authorities and government. We have been also helped by learning from the mistakes of other nations, and being down the bottom of the globe surrounded by thousands of miles of ocean.



Corona has brought a lot of changes to our practice this year. We have been actively asking our patients screening questions when booking and attending appointments; have changed our waiting room with removal of chairs to allow safe social distancing, and reading material to the disappointment of a number of our consumers.

On the flip side I have received a lot more inquiries about the photos hanging in the waiting room which have been there over 10 years! Our reception staff reduced their hours for several months to reduce risk of exposure while behind the desk. We relied on telephone consultations to continue to offer a medical service to our consumers. Alcohol gel which was in short supply for some months as Australians started cleansing their hands in earnest is a part of our everyday lives. Fortunately we had a cellar full of toilet paper..... We've stopped shaking hands. Many of our consumers miss this social interaction, and I must say I do as well. It's been replaced by elbow bumps. Many of our consumers have encountered hardships as a result of losing work, especially those in the hospitality industry. Many struggled with the reduction in social interaction while trying to remain safe at home.



Fortunately our state's statistics are looking good, but we cannot become complacent. Victoria is a recent example of how quickly community transmission can get out of control.

For many of our team, this will be the first year in a long time we have not ventured overseas. It is an opportunity to enjoy our own backyards though. Instead of cycling in Utah this month, I will be riding 800kms along the Mawson Trail to the Flinders Ranges with a few mates.



Sue is currently enjoying the tropics in Cairns thanks to our open border with Queensland. Alex took some leave in July with a view to kick about at home. I didn't realise she meant to do this literally until she called to report that she had broke her foot. It apparently occurred on a "girl's night out" and "alcohol was not involved". We are glad to have her back healed and healthy although I must admit the sound of her moon boot walking on the floor boards made it easier to hear her coming to collect typing or deliver an appreciated cup of coffee.



Last year Nunyara House achieved the milestone of being open for business for 10 years. Our hard working receptionist Cherie has been there from the start. In fact she suggested the very fitting name "Nunyara" for the rooms. Cherie and I have worked together since I started consulting at Galmec Specialist Suite in February 2003. Unfortunately a day I have been dreading is nearly here. Sadly for us, Cherie retires this month. I am sure she has lots of plans to fill her spare time – grandchildren, settling in to her new house, travel. Thank you Cherie for your dedication, enthusiasm, reliability, kindness and care. We will miss you! Our admin team and I celebrated with a night at the Lord Lyndoch. We gifted a painting "Brolga Dance" to remember us by. We wish you all the best Cherie in the next stage of your journey of life. Keep in touch!



Alex will be increasing her hours, now working on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Fridays. Sue our other long serving member of the reception team is dropping her Friday morning hours. Look up into the sky on Friday's in future and you may see the outline of her plane against blue skies. We welcome Lisa Knauerhase to our Admin team. Lisa has some experience in medical reception in another life, and more recently has been working in aged care. Lisa has started a short apprenticeship under the guidance of Cherie and will be ready to take the reins on her own in a week or 2. Welcome Lisa! We are glad to have you join the Nunyara Team. Lisa will be working Wednesday, some Thursdays, and Fridays.

I know all of our clinicians are keen to catch up with Cherie and bid her farewell. We are all keen to catch up again out of work hours for another social get together. We are planning on a weekend luncheon again before year's end. Stay tuned in coming weeks for a "save the date" for our families to get together. Cherie has promised she will be there.

In closing, please do not hesitate to contact Alex or myself if you have any concerns or suggestions for the rooms.

Hoping you all remain safe and healthy for the remainder of the year, and then the years ahead. If Port Power wins the flag in October and then Trump is sent packing in November and then finds himself locked up in prison, this year may not turn out too bad after all!



Kind Regards,

Anthony Zimmermann

Nunyara: Restored to Health