



## OTWAY HEALTH NEWS

In the event of an emergency please call 000.

**Our Urgent Care Unit operates 24 hours per day / 7 days per week.**

**Location: 75 McLachlan Street, Apollo Bay**

For more information and to book health and community services please phone  
Otway Health Reception: (03) 5237 8500 or email [info@otwayhealth.org.au](mailto:info@otwayhealth.org.au)

### - Board Update and Welcome -

The inaugural Otway Health GP registrar training program commenced in early February, under the stewardship of principal GP – Dr Denise Ruth and her team of senior doctors; this will strengthen primary care services in Apollo Bay for years to come. I encourage all community members to welcome and support the new medical team.

The Otway Health Board is currently completing an extensive property review to ensure we have appropriate infrastructure to support health services and accommodate current and future health professionals. Community consultation is an important part of this process and opportunities to participate will be provided in the near future.

Thank you to the many members of the community who participated in recent Otway Health 'tea-talks' and discussions at the Apollo Bay market regarding our proposal to voluntarily amalgamate with Lorne Community Hospital. Common themes identified throughout the discussions, included:

- The need to maintain and where possible improve, local access to patient services including urgent care, inpatient care, aged and residential care, and community services.
- Developing a sustainable GP service to address a major service gap in Apollo Bay.
- Retaining names for each local 'campus' – Otway Health and Lorne Community Hospital.
- Ensuring structures are in place for donations and funds raised by charities, auxiliaries and bequests, to be quarantined and directed towards intended 'local' purposes.

The proposal to voluntarily amalgamate will provide recommendations that the amalgamated board include equal representation from both Otway Health and Lorne Community Hospital Boards and, to maintain local perspective, the appointment of a new member, that resides in or has strong connections with our local community. Board composition is however, ultimately at the discretion of the Minister of Health.

For further information regarding the voluntary amalgamation proposal, or for other matters concerning Otway Health, please visit the Otway Health website or contact a member of the Otway Health Community Advisory Committee or Otway Health Board.

- Nick Salkeld, Otway Health Board Chair

### We are open:

Monday to Friday 8:45am - 5:45pm  
Saturdays from 9am - 12pm

### We will be closed on the upcoming public holidays:

Labour Day, Monday 11th March

Good Friday, 19th April

Easter Sunday, 21st April

Easter Monday, 22nd April

Anzac Day, Thursday 25th April

### Always open:

24/7 on-call service through Otway Health Urgent Care.

**Ph: 5237 8500**

APOLLO BAY   
medical centre

### ALLIED HEALTH SERVICES



#### Physiotherapy, Jewel

Tuesday 12, Thursday 14 March

#### Podiatry, Matthew Payton

Friday 15 March

#### Free Legal Advice

Friday 15 March

*To make an appointment please call: 5237 8500*

#### Australian Hearing

Tuesday 12 & 24 March

*To make an appointment please call: 5233 9100*

### Expression of Interest Community Advisory Committee

#### \*Closing Soon\*

Otway Health is seeking expressions of interest to join our  
Community Advisory Committee (CAC).

The purpose of the Community Member role on the CAC is to advocate and represent the views of the Apollo Bay and catchment area community on ways to improve, increase and enhance the service delivery of Otway Health.

*To apply contact Georgina on [glharrison@swarh.vic.gov.au](mailto:glharrison@swarh.vic.gov.au)*

***Applications close 5pm on April 1 2019.***

### STAY CONNECTED WITH OTWAY HEALTH

#### Otway Health Community Advisory Committee

Email: [CAC.OH@swarh.vic.gov.au](mailto:CAC.OH@swarh.vic.gov.au)

#### Otway Health Board

Email: [otwayboard@swarh.vic.gov.au](mailto:otwayboard@swarh.vic.gov.au)