

Our Mission is to provide the South West community with excellence in respite and end of life care within a home-like environment; embracing respect and compassion for all people.

Upcoming Events

- Parkinson's Support Group Friday 23 April 2022
- Palliative Care Week Open Day 24 May 2022

We acknowledge the valuable contribution to Anam Cara Colac, of the following businesses, organisations and community groups:

- South West Community Foundation
- Dept of Families, Fairness & Housing Victoria
- Findex Community Fund

**QIC Accredited Organisation
Member of Palliative Care Victoria Inc (PCV)
Member International Association for Hospice and Palliative Care (IAHPC)**

Anam Cara Colac acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples as the First Australians and especially the Guldjan (also known as the Kolakngat) people who occupied the Lake Colac region of Victoria.

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A word from ...

Diane Wright OAM, Founder & President

10th Birthday Celebrations

Anam Cara Colac was formerly commissioned with a Service of Dedication at St Mary's Colac in November 2011 and in January 2012 we welcomed our first guests for "home-like" respite and palliative care.

On 7 March 2022 a Service of Re-dedication was held at St Mary's Colac as we celebrated 10 years of hospice care for Colac and South West Victoria. At this Celebration we reviewed our ten year journey, offered prayers of thanksgiving and dedication for Anam Cara Colac, awarded some 26 Life Memberships and announced our Patron, Mr John Dowling.

We also warmly welcomed Diana Taylor, Chair of Anam Cara Geelong who told us of The New Anam Cara currently being completed at Waurin Ponds. And finally, we launched our book *"The Anam Cara Colac Story - from Vision to Reality (2004-2021)"*. Deb Payton, our inaugural Hospice Manager and Karen Eccles, our current Hospice Manager, cut our Birthday Cake and guests enjoyed social time in the Gathering Space as Anam Cara friends greeted one another and collective memories were shared.

We gratefully acknowledge the Colac Otway Shire's support with a Community Grant and also Fr Michael O'Toole and The Parish of St Mary's for enabling this Celebration.

The Anam Cara Colac journey has been, and continues to be, a journey of great community commitment and support. Over the past ten years we have had the privilege of caring for 393 guests, with some 6,000 episodes of overnight care and 3665

attendances at Day Respite. Indeed community demand for our care continues to increase, especially since COVID-19.

Our tenth year of operations is a significant milestone that also presents our governing body with the challenge of strategic planning for the next ten years!



The Anam Cara Colac Story - From Vision to Reality (2004-2021)

Complimentary copies of our book are available from Blanes or the Anam Cara Colac office.



South West Community Foundation

The South West Community Foundation has supported Anam Cara Colac to promote and support people to complete an Advance Care Plan through the provision of education and access to skilled advance care planning support.

The valued support of the Foundation has allowed us to train more of our nursing team to complete Advance Care Plans with our guests and their carers. We have also raised awareness of our ability to support local people to complete an Advance Care Plan by having a presence in the newsletters of local business. During 2022 we will offer Advance Care Planning information sessions for the community.



*RN Hayley completing
online Advance Care
Planning Training*

The Summer Floods of 2022

A deluge of rain following two summer storms in January resulted in significant damage at Anam Cara House, most especially to our dining room. We wish to acknowledge Mark Rosevear, our original Building Supervisor, who took on the considerable task of co-ordinating and overseeing the repairs required - thank you Mark.

Appointment of Life Members

Our Life Members appointed at the 10th birthday celebrations on 7 March.
Absent - Kerry Turner and Wendy Hay



Find Us

Visit the Website - to find everything you need to know about Anam Cara House Colac
www.anamcarahousecolac.org.au

On Facebook - "Like" us on Facebook to keep up with the happenings at the hospice.

Donate - Donations can be made by mail, phone, in person or via our website or Facebook page.

All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. Contact us today to make your donation.

Appointment of Third Patron

*Mr John Dowling -
Patron of Anam Cara Colac*



John Dowling joined the Anam Cara Melbourne Committee in 2008 and in 2012 took over as our Chairperson, continuing in that role until that Committee went into recession in 2016. Over eight years, the Anam Cara Melbourne Committee raised some \$800,000 for our Foundation Fund, connecting us to numerous philanthropic trusts and supporters.

Significantly, when the work of our Melbourne Committee was complete, John Dowling kept quietly working on our behalf. At John's recommendation, Anam Cara Colac was connected to JB Were Melbourne who now managed the Anam Cara Colac Foundation Fund. John has connected us to a number of Trusts who have provided substantial funding to Anam Cara Colac.

In summary, John has shown both loyalty and commitment to Colac's community hospice over the past 13 years and that commitment continues to this day. The Committee of Management therefore honour John Kenneth Dowling as our third Patron, in recognition of his outstanding and ongoing support to Anam Cara Colac.