

# EGHS VOLUNTEERS ARE VALUED

During National Volunteer Week 2020, East Grampians Health Service paid tribute to its 148 volunteers, who give up their time to work in a variety of areas across the health service.

Our 148 volunteers devote countless hours to our health service and we thank them for all that they do for our patients, residents, consumers and staff.

Sadly our volunteers have not been able to visit the health service due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but we look forward to welcoming them back as soon as it is safe and practical to do so.

During National Volunteer Week staff were invited to put their hands up and thank our volunteers by waving a 'smiley face' of appreciation on social media, which proved a fun way to thank our valuable volunteers.



**NATIONAL**  
**VOLUNTEER**  
**CHANGING COMMUNITIES.**  
**CHANGING LIVES.** **WEEK**

# PRAISE FOR WILLAURA HEALTH CARE STAFF

Our staff at Willaura Healthcare and Parkland House Hostel have been working hard during COVID-19, caring for patients and keeping our residents entertained and active.

At Willaura we have 25 permanent staff and 20 casual staff, with six permanent support services staff and one casual.

There are eight acute beds, with aged care facilities including 10 beds in Parkland House Hostel and two beds at Willaura Healthcare.

Our clinical, support services and leisure and lifestyle staff ensure our residents and patients are well cared for in quality facilities, and that they also enjoy stimulating activities, such as cooking, craft and gardening in a great country setting.

Set in the picturesque town of Willaura with rolling farmlands surrounding the facility, Willaura Healthcare is a great place to live and work.



For more information please visit [eghs.net.au](http://eghs.net.au)

Disclaimer – All photos taken pre-mandatory mask wearing.

East Grampians Health Service



# COMMUNITY UPDATE



Distributed across  
Ararat Rural City to  
update the community  
during this COVID-19  
Pandemic



East Grampians  
Health Service

## MESSAGE FROM BOARD CHAIR

East Grampians Health Service provides safe, quality care for our community and beyond.

At this challenging time, our dedicated employees are on the frontline battling COVID-19. The entire organisation is working above and beyond for our community.

To our employees, thank you, from the East Grampians Health Service Board, for the dedication and commitment you show every day and especially during this pandemic. Your hard work is making a difference and it is greatly appreciated.

**We're staying home for you. Thank you for working for us.**

To our community, thank you for adhering to public health advice, you are helping minimise the spread of COVID-19 and protecting those most vulnerable in our community. We also appreciate the understanding shown as we implement small changes to service delivery to ensure we continue to provide safe and quality care.

We know this is a difficult time for all.



**Nancy Panter**  
Board Chair

East Grampians Health Service



## EGHS PROJECTS

### SOLAR PANELS REDUCING POWER COSTS

EGHS has successfully completed a solar power initiative, installing 938 panels across the Ararat and Willaura campuses, thanks to a generous bequest from the late Joe Kapp.

Due to the high energy consumption and with adopting solar panels as a cost effective and sustainable solution, EGHS's energy costs will be reduced by approximately \$79,000 per annum.

EGHS has been working with Ballarat Renewable Energy and Zero Emissions Inc (BREAZE) through Ballarat's Community Power Hub program and has received funding of \$650,000 to also install solar car park shelters.



### 70 LOWE STREET REFURBISHMENT

East Grampians Health Service received funding under the Department of Health and Human Services, Ageing and Aged Care Branch Significant Facility Refurbishment Initiative 2018-19 for refurbishment works at 70 Lowe Street.

The initiative is designed for projects to deliver significant improvements for aged care residents through enhanced facility quality and amenities.

Through this funding, we have enhanced common areas, adjusted communal spaces and improved resident access to catering.

The scope of works came from the introduction of a user group meeting which included residents, residents' families, consumers and staff.

The kitchen extension included a servery and buffet breakfast area to encourage residents' meal choice and preferences, supporting their independence, health, well-being and quality of life.

Other works included vinyl floor covering to assist with the mobility and independence of residents, a dado rail in all residents' rooms to increase the homely feeling in their rooms, large Smart televisions in residents' rooms and LED lighting throughout the individual rooms and all common areas.



before



after

### REDEVELOPMENT OF THEATRE, RADIOLOGY AND PATHOLOGY

East Grampians Health Service has received funding of \$7.4 million to redevelop/upgrade the theatre, radiology and pathology departments.

The redevelopment will further enhance the care provided to allow people to access quality healthcare in the local community.

HSPC (Health Science Architects) have been engaged and staff and community representatives were involved in the planning and design of the departments

EGHS is currently seeking tenders for the project. It is anticipated the project will commence late October 2020 and will run over approximately an 18-month period.



before



after