

July/August 2020



# Volunteer Newsletter



**ALL PROGRAMS SET  
TO RECOMMENCE  
FROM JULY 20**

Following the relaxation of many restrictions in NSW and the re-opening of council facilities, Blue Mountains Food Services is pleased to announce that we are pushing ahead with our planned re-opening date of July 20.

The office is abuzz with lots of discussion & planning as we look at the way our services will look under the restrictions that are still in place. There are many details to iron out & the landscape is changing daily. Thank you for your patience & we will continue to keep you informed every step of the way!

**We cannot wait to have everyone back on board again!**



Please remember if you have a fever, shortness of breath or flu-like symptoms, we ask if you could make us aware of this & refrain from attending at that time. Our staff & clients are following the same protocols, & if we all do the right thing together, we can all stay as healthy as possible!



## Vale Jane Newbery

We were sad to hear of the passing of Jane Newbery earlier this month. Jane was a passionate & dedicated BMFS volunteer for many years. She was loved by staff, clients & her fellow volunteers alike. Jane's happy outlook & cheeky sense of humour will be missed by us all.

## Meet the Manager Morning Tea

Given the change in circumstances since COVID-19 arrived, we have all needed to be flexible & adapt to change. At BMFS we have undertaken a review of the way we interact with our volunteers & have made a number of changes to our processes.

One of the initiatives we would like to introduce is an opportunity for volunteers to meet directly with the General Manager, Martin Gardiner - over a cup of tea or coffee, some light refreshments, in a small group & a relaxed informal environment. There is no specific agenda - it will simply be an opportunity to have a chat & get to know each other better.

These meetings will be held every two months & you can attend as little or as often as you like, subject to bookings. If you are interested in having a chat & enjoying a drink & some refreshments from our café, please come along to the inaugural 'Meet the Manager' Morning Tea.

**Date:** Wednesday July 22, 2020

**Time:** 10.30am

**Venue:** Ben Roberts Café,  
10 Benang Street, Lawson

**RSVP:** 02 4759 2811

Blue Mountains Food Services would like to thank Thomas & Claire Cook for their service over the past years. Most recently Tom & Claire delivered meals on Tuesdays to clients in the upper mountains. We especially appreciate their efforts during the height of the COVID-19 shutdown period.

## Social Support Update

Karen is absolutely bursting with excitement at the prospect of social support (with volunteers) resuming soon. During the 'lockdown period' staff have been visiting clients, taking their shopping lists & doing their shopping for them. But we know that our clients are missing their regular volunteers, & that our volunteers are itching to get back out there. If you haven't heard from Karen already, expect a call very soon. She will be making contact with all of our social support clients & volunteers to discuss upcoming visits.



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The Open University

## Get inspired & learn something new today!

If you are **unable to cover your shift**, please let your staff contact person know in advance so they can organise a suitable replacement.

- Meal deliveries & warehouse support: Lauren Harris
- Community restaurants: Sandra Henry, Robyn Mehl or Nicole Wilding-Forbes
- Social support: Karen Frawley
- Cook+Connect: Sarah Kelly
- Office administration: Lauren Harris

If your absence relates to a rostered shift on that day, please contact the office directly on 02 4759 2811.

If a **client does not answer the door** for a scheduled meal delivery, please contact Lauren immediately on 02 4759 2811 & await instructions.

BMFS has a **duty of care** to ensure that a client's family/contacts are aware they are not at home to receive their meal delivery.

If you use your own vehicle for BMFS purposes you are entitled to claim a **fuel reimbursement**. New forms can be emailed upon request. Please complete & submit your monthly claim form before the 10th day of the following month to Lauren: [admin@bmfs.org.au](mailto:admin@bmfs.org.au)

- July reimbursements: Due by August 10, 2020
- August reimbursements: Due by September 10, 2020



blue mountains  
food services

[www.bmfs.org.au](http://www.bmfs.org.au)

(02) 4759 2811

[admin@bmfs.org.au](mailto:admin@bmfs.org.au)

25 Livingstone Street, Lawson NSW 2783 | PO Box 214 Hazelbrook NSW 2779 | ABN: 91 530 248 271

This Service is funded by the Commonwealth Government