

MEDIA RELEASE



Subject: **Lerwin Residential Care Celebrates 40 Years of Community Service**

Contact: **Heather Barclay / CEO**
8539 1174 / h.barclay@murraybridge.sa.gov.au

Date: **Monday 27 November 2023**

Lerwin Residential Care is celebrating its 40th anniversary this November, marking four decades of service to older community members.

Founded in 1983, Lerwin emerged from a community-led initiative in Murray Bridge, aimed at filling a vital gap in elderly care within the local area. The local community, recognising the lack of facilities for their vulnerable seniors, rallied together in a remarkable effort. Council and residents embarked on a significant fundraising campaign, showcasing their commitment to creating a nurturing environment for the elderly.

The establishment of Lerwin is a testament to the power of community effort and collaboration. The invaluable support and contributions from local businesses and individuals were instrumental in turning the community's vision into reality. Today, Lerwin stands as a residential care facility, a symbol of the community's unwavering commitment to caring for its elderly, thriving in an area now home to numerous other facilities.

A highlight of Lerwin's journey is the continued involvement of its original staff, many of whom now volunteer. This commitment from former employees speaks volumes about their dedication to Lerwin's residents and the broader elderly community.

Mayor Thorley of the Rural City of Murray Bridge has expressed his admiration and gratitude for the facility's remarkable success, particularly highlighting its establishment during a period when the area was notably under resourced. Despite these initial challenges and the subsequent introduction of other facilities in the region, the facility has continued to thrive.

"We're incredibly proud of the legacy of Lerwin, born from a remarkable community effort back in 1983 to support our elderly and continues to be a pillar of the region today," he said.

In celebration of this milestone, Lerwin Residential Care will host a small event on Monday 27 November.

For more information about Lerwin Residential Care, please contact Anthony Heslop on 08 8539 1459.