



Mandy with her partner  
and friends



## MARY POTTER *matters*

~  
EDITION 4, 2022

# Thank you for giving patients the care they need, mixed with a little Christmas cheer

You have blessed so many families by giving them special Christmas memories to hold onto.

Mandy's favourite time of the year was Christmas.

When her hired tilt wheelchair arrived at the Hospice, suddenly going home for Christmas became a reality. Thanks to you, we were able to hire a special wheelchair, which gave her back some of the freedom she had lost.

Faced with spending her final months in bed, Mandy was now able to leave Mary Potter to be with her partner and friends. Going to her friend's home on Christmas Day and again on Boxing Day, meant so much to Mandy and her partner Mike.

*Continued over the page*





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Laurie also loved Christmas. Every year, his extended family would gather at their home for a Christmas celebration. It was a joy to have their home filled with the smells of their favourite food and the giggling and laughter coming from their grandchildren as they played with their cousins. It was a special day, that Laurie always looked forward to.

When Laurie was admitted to the Hospice, his wife Marcia was hopeful that he would be able to go home for one last family Christmas. But it was looking less likely as Christmas drew near.

Through your generosity, we brought Christmas Day forward for Laurie and his family. A Christmas lunch with all the trimmings, gifts for the grandchildren and a Christmas tree with decorations gave Laurie and his family memories and mementoes they will always treasure.



*This Christmas we will have patients in Mary Potter Hospice, in the Palliative Home Care Service and in the Mary Potter unit at Central Districts Hospital who will need care. We will also have patients having their cancer treatment, some for the first time.*

We have made plans to give patients the care they need sprinkled with a little Christmas cheer. But we need your help to bring our plans to life.

If you have already responded to our recent letter, asking you to 'Light up the Hospice with Love this Christmas' – thank you. Your support for our Loving Tree will bring loving care and a touch of Christmas to these patients and their families.

If you didn't receive a letter or you haven't had time to respond, it isn't too late. Call us on **08 8239 0119** or go to [marypotter.org.au](http://marypotter.org.au) or give a gift using the donation form enclosed.



 Thank you ... 

... Thank you for giving each family a special Christmas they will always remember.

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## Capturing the richness of life: Patients tell their story in their own words, thanks to you

Did you know that your gifts to the Foundation provide palliative patients with the opportunity to record their life stories?



Capturing fond memories and the key moments of a person's life is not only a fulfilling process for a patient, but it can create a lasting legacy for family and friends to cherish.

Thanks to you this service is completely free. Life Stories Program Coordinator, Lian shares the importance of the program and thanks you for the gift you give to patients.

"Thank you for allowing me to remind a person of how wonderful their life has been," says Lian.

There are many reasons a patient will want to share their story. Sometimes it's to release the tension of a difficult life. Other times to express their love for their family and share snippets of wisdom.

Life stories provide a platform for people to share their life story in their own words.

~

*Through the process of telling their story, they can celebrate their identity and detach from their condition or illness. It allows them to process their thoughts and reflect on their life to see how meaningful and rich it was. This can help them find more peace during the final stages of their life.*

~

When we asked Lian why she wants to thank you, she says, "It's because of the big smiles and enjoyment I see on a patient's face when they read back their own life affirming story. This is when they realise how fulfilling their life has been".



*Thank you ...*

**... for giving the gift and memories of an enriched life to the people I record stories for.**



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# Light up the Hospice with *your love* this Christmas

Each Christmas we light up thousands of lights on the Mary Potter Loving Tree, located at the entrance to the Mary Potter Hospice. The tree is a symbol of our love, and each light represents a loved one.

This Christmas you're invited to remember your loved ones by dedicating a light to them on the Loving Tree. Your gift will also support the many patients and families who will spend their last Christmas in our care.

Using the reply slip enclosed, simply make a gift from your heart and your loved one's name will be added to the Loving Tree. You will also receive a heart for your own Christmas Tree and up to two tickets to attend a free and exclusive **2022 Loving Tree Carols Concert**.

The concert will be held on Wednesday 7 December at the beautiful St Francis Xavier Cathedral in Wakefield St, Adelaide. It is an evening for us to come together; to reflect and remember those that are loved and missed everyday but especially at Christmas.

It will feature a performance by The Adelaide Symphony Orchestra with carolling led by the Adelaide Male Voice Choir and St Peters' Woodlands School Choir.

A highlight of the concert will be showing the **Lighting of the Loving Tree video**. The names of all loved ones being honoured on the Loving Tree this year will be acknowledged.

To have your loved one(s) name(s) included in the honour roll, please make a gift in memory on or before **25 November 2022** by calling us on 08 8239 0119 or going online to [marypotter.org.au](http://marypotter.org.au).



Proud Sponsor of the  
Mary Potter Loving Tree

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## Message from our Executive Director – Lorna Riddle

It is hard to believe that Christmas is only weeks away. 2022 has been a year of contrast. Whilst we've had plenty of challenges, we have so much to be grateful for, thanks to you.

~  
*Thank you for driving our mission forward to provide quality palliative and end-of-life care. You have met a need that has impacted patient's lives and given families precious memories to hold onto.*  
~

There have been many changes this year too. The refurbishment of Mary Potter Hospice finally got underway after a hiatus caused by COVID-19. And the Palliative Home Care Service welcomed their fourth Palliative Nurse Practitioner to the team.

The Hospice had a change of leadership too, with Amy Williams stepping into the role one month ago. Amy has a wealth of experience in palliative care having worked in Mary Potter Hospice for many years. I am sure you will join me in wishing her well in her new role.

Thank you for your generous support this year. If you have dedicated a light on the Loving Tree – thank you for giving patients and families not only the care they need in the weeks ahead, but extra treats and support so they can treasure each moment together.

If you haven't dedicated a light or made a gift, please consider donating today, so we can bring the love of Christmas to those in our care.

*Wishing you a blessed Christmas.* 

## Thanks for your support in 2022, may you have a blessed Christmas

As the end of the year draws near, Lorna, Mel, Morgan, Robbie and Jess (pictured L-R) take a moment to wish you a blessed Christmas and thank you for your friendship and support in 2022.

It has been another challenging year and you have been there for us to help bring the compassionate care and loving support when it was needed most.

We are thinking of everyone who has had to say goodbye to someone this year. Or if you are missing someone you can't spend meaningful time with this Christmas. Please know you are in our hearts.

We wish you a blessed Christmas and New Year.



### CHRISTMAS CLOSURE DATES

The Mary Potter Foundation office will close from 4pm on Friday 16 December 2022. It will re-open on Monday 9 January 2023.

## HOW TO *Get involved*

### HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED LEAVING A GIFT IN YOUR WILL?

Leaving a gift in your Will is easy to do and will ensure the work of the Foundation will continue beyond your lifetime.

You will be remembered for more than your generosity – this will be your gift to future generations.

If you would like to know more about leaving a gift and becoming one of our very special bequestors, please contact Lorna Riddle on 8239 0119 or email [lorna.riddle@marypotter.org.au](mailto:lorna.riddle@marypotter.org.au) at any time.

### LOVING TREE CAROLS CONCERT (TICKET HOLDERS ONLY)

Wednesday 7 December 2022 | St Francis Xavier's Cathedral

For more information call 08 8239 0119 or visit [marypotter.org.au](http://marypotter.org.au)

### ROTARY ADELAIDE & MARY POTTER COMEDY NIGHT

Saturday 25 February 2023 | Burnside Ballroom, Tasmore  
6:30pm | \$65 per ticket or \$650 table of 10

A fun social night out filled with laughter, auctions, wine wall and raffles. Featuring comedian Kehau Jackson. Tickets include a cheese platter for your table or a share in a cheese platter for individual tickets. Drinks will be available to purchase separately on the night. Proceeds support Mary Potter and Rotary Adelaide projects.

To purchase tickets, visit [trybooking.com/981950](http://trybooking.com/981950) or contact Jess at Mary Potter on 08 8239 0119.

### THE MARY POTTER FOUNDATION ASSOCIATED AUXILIARY (FORMERLY THE HOSPICE & HOSPITAL AUXILIARY) BRUNCH BY THE SEA

Sunday 20 November 2022 | Stamford Grand, Glenelg  
10:00am | \$60pp

To purchase tickets, visit [trybooking.com/CBYGQ](http://trybooking.com/CBYGQ) or contact Kathy on 0438 396 062 or [csag2512@adam.com.au](mailto:csag2512@adam.com.au)

Bookings made before 31 October 2022, will go in the Early Bird Booking Draw to win a \$250 accommodation voucher to stay at the Stamford Grand, Glenelg. The draw will take place at the brunch.

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### OUR MISSION

Inspiring people to share our belief that caring for people at the end of their lives is an honour and a privilege and to work with us to support living every day, every hour.



The Mary Potter  
Foundation Inc

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#### Business Hours:

Monday-Thursday

9am to 5pm,

and Friday 9am to 4pm



The Mary Potter Foundation  
is a registered charity with  
the Australian Charities and  
Not-for-profits Commission  
(ACNC)