

MEDIA RELEASE

"Nobody can do for little children what grandparents do. Grandparents sort of sprinkle stardust over the lives of little children."

~Alex Haley

In today's cynical world, where we feel that every 'special' day has become a purely commercial opportunity driven by lobbying florists, greeting card companies and chocolate-makers, one might conclude that Grandparents Day is no different; this idea could not be farther from the truth.

Grandparents Day is a day for celebrating the connections between the generations, and its origin was decidedly non-commercial, and has remained mainly true to its roots.

New South Wales held their first Grandparents Day on Sunday the 30th of October 2011; it is celebrated each year on the last Sunday of October. Grandparents Day, which will be held on Sunday the 29th of October this year, celebrates the role grandparents and older people play in our society – both the things they have done, and the things they keep doing, and Inverell Aged Care provider, McLean Care®, looks forward to this celebration each year with much excitement and anticipation.

"McLean Care celebrates Grandparents Day every year; we understand the importance, and see firsthand the benefits, of intergenerational connections to the health and happiness of both our residents and the children. said Sarah Wade, General Manager Residential Services. "This year, we will be celebrating Grandparents Day in Inverell with a very special event... we are inviting our preschool and primary school kiddies to come and join our residents for cookie baking! Together, we'll create cookies and share morning tea and positive stories about the ageing journey. We will also be joined by our newest friends, the Trauma Teddies, lovingly hand-crafted by volunteers from all over the country, and generously donated to McLean Care by the Red Cross."

And what better way to bring these two generations together.

"When we think of grandparents, we instantly think of their amazing food! So, we decided to hold this event so that local children could come and interact with our Independent Living and Residential clients, cooking, baking and eating food that they prepare together." Sarah continued. "You have to see these two groups together to believe what happens between them. The children will also take packaged, leftover cookies back to their schools to sell during fundraising activities."

Grandparents Day celebrates the contribution of older people to the wellbeing of children in our communities. Nurturing what older adults can bring through intergenerational connections can achieve a better community and quality of life for all ages.

Physical limitations of ageing cement relationships between old and young; grandparents have the inclination to spend hours with grandchildren, telling stories and sharing fun activities. They help socialise children, teach them empathy and character, and give them an unconditional love not

found elsewhere. Children, in turn, can be an endless source of joy, share affection and play, and provide assistance with simple tasks.

The Inverell and surrounding communities are invited to join McLean Care® residents, and local 'littlies' to celebrate this very special day.

EVENT DETAILS

Inverell NSW

Inverell Residential Facility

Wednesday, 1 November 2017

10:00 am to 12:00 pm

For further details, and media opportunities, contact Sarah Wade, Manager Residential Services

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