

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

From: Kasey McCulloch, Media Officer, Mercy Health

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The beach comes to Montrose for Australia Day celebrations

Residents at Mercy Place Montrose will celebrate Australia Day early with a concert by the 'beach' in the comfort of their own home.

On Friday 22 January, inflatable pools and sand will be placed throughout the residential aged care home, transporting residents to the seaside.

Mercy Place Montrose Lifestyle Coordinator David Thomas said staff would dress up in beach attire and the beach experience would be capped off with a didgeridoo performance by experienced musician Stax.

"Montrose is not close to the beach and mobility issues make it difficult to get to one," David said.

"The re-created beach concert will provide a great sensory activity for residents who want to feel the sand between their toes and the water on their feet."

Mercy Place Montrose will continue its Australia Day celebrations with art classes, a trivia competition and a school visit.

"Some of our residents have lived through the Depression, had a family member fight in World War I, or even fought in World War II themselves, securing the freedom that we enjoy today," David said.

"We put a lot of heart into these activities to acknowledge our residents and their contribution to our country—and it also gives them the opportunity to enjoy the day and have fun."

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