

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

From: Monica Cheah, Porter Novelli on behalf of Mercy Health

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Mercy Place Rice Village recognises valued volunteer

While many of us are caught up in the day-to-day focus of our own lives, it's those who look beyond their own needs who will be celebrated at Mercy Place Rice Village this International Volunteers Day.

One volunteer in particular, Geelong local, David Smith has made a significant impact at the residential aged care home, despite volunteering for less than 12 months.

David began volunteering at Mercy Place Rice Village after gaining a renewed outlook on life while recovering from an acquired brain injury. He visits the home every Monday to meet with residents and lead sing-a-long activities.

"I love volunteering at the home, I'd be lost without it. I hear inspiring stories from residents every Monday and singing along with them is a truly joyous experience," David said.

Mercy Place Rice Village Acting Service Manager, Pamela Matheson said the home was lucky to have David as one of its newest and most valued volunteers.

"The residents love spending time with David, he brings smiles to their faces," Pamela said. "When he sings songs from their era it transports them to a different time, bringing back memories of ballroom dances and swing sessions from their younger years.

"David has a very positive impact at the home – the relationships and connections he shares with residents are invaluable."

Volunteers at Mercy Health are highly valued for the activities they lead and the strong relationships they develop with residents. Their generosity, compassion and dedication positively impact the lives of residents across Mercy Health.

International Volunteers Day, celebrated on Tuesday 5 December recognises the positive solidarity of volunteers around the world who answer calls in times of crisis, helping save lives today and supporting those who want to continue living their lives with dignity tomorrow.

– Ends –

For interviews and photo opportunities, please contact:

Monica Cheah
Consultant
Porter Novelli
Ph: 03 9289 9555
Mobile: 0457 470 276
Email: mcheah@porternovelli.com.au

Kasey McCulloch
Media Officer
Mercy Health
Ph: 03 8416 7521
Mobile: 0477 720 337
Email: KMCCulloch@mercy.com.au