

## **Greek Coffee Wednesday highlights importance of community and connection**

With amazing dedication and selflessness Andreas Georgiou has been volunteering at [MannaCare](#) for the past four years' believing "it was the best thing I ever did. I love it" wishing he had "done it thirty years ago".

Coming from Cyprus, Andreas grew up in Port Melbourne and then went on to run his own business saying he has "made a good life in Australia". Having retired ten years ago, he has "always wanted to give back because of the opportunities Australia has given him and his family."

Andreas comes in every Wednesday saying "I round up all the Greek residents, of which there are about a dozen, and I make them Greek coffee. MannaCare give us a room which we call the 'Greek' room and everybody loves it."

A big feat, says one staff member, is that Andreas "Somehow manages to entice residents to his Greek club program when those same residents do not participate in any other leisure activities run by staff during the week." Sometimes family members also turn-up as the atmosphere is so good!

They relate well to him and look forward to the 'Greek Club' each week. "We chat about the old country and about their lives in Australia and they enjoy that," says Andreas. "I am very happy and proud to see that they are so well looked after at MannaCare," he continues.



In fact, he was so happy with the care that he placed his mother into MannaCare when she could no longer live at home.

Andreas loves Wednesdays and can't wait for it to come around so that he can visit "his customers" which is what he calls the Greek residents. He is passionate about the role which is infectious to both the staff and the residents and even other volunteers. He seems to have energy in abundance. So MannaCare is extremely lucky that there is much more to come from Andreas Georgiou.

### **For more information contact:**

Tanya Warms – **Volunteer Co-ordinator** - Email: [tanya.warms@mannacare.org.au](mailto:tanya.warms@mannacare.org.au)

