

Welcome to  
**Cohuna Village**



respect



## Welcome to Cohuna Village

38 Augustine St, Cohuna, VIC., 3568  
(03) 5456 2338

Located in the rich, irrigated, agricultural area of Cohuna south of the Murray River, Respect Cohuna Village has been a feature of the local community since 1972 following incredible demand and fundraising efforts to secure adequate accommodation for the elderly.

At Cohuna Village, we take pride in providing individual, tailored support to each resident by qualified, experienced staff, available seven days a week.

## Everything you need to feel at home

At Cohuna Village, we understand that each of our residents are unique. Our approach to care provides structure, stability, and attention to detail in meeting each of our residents' needs while also facilitating their independence.

With a robust social calendar curated by our social care team and therapies for all to enjoy, our staff at Cohuna Village go above and beyond to provide compassionate care and nurture long-lasting rapport with each of the residents in our homes.

### A place to call home

Closely tied to the nearby community, Cohuna Village is perfectly situated amongst the Victorian countryside, bound by scenic farmland, resting next to established gum trees, along the banks of Gunbower Creek. All of our living spaces at Cohuna Village,

have been thoughtfully designed to surround our residents in comfort and safety, offering individualised attention for every stage in life. Respect Cohuna Village was built in the 1970s and houses four wings that accommodate 45 beds, with 11 beds in our specially designed memory support unit. All the single rooms at Cohuna Village feature a private ensuite.

### Support tailored for you

Our team of expert staff provide top-tier residential aged care specialising in services for those in need of support for declining health and dementia. With personal care assistants to assist with everyday living, housekeeping services and our team of registered nurses on-call 24 hours, seven days a week, you can rest assured knowing there is always support when you need it.

### Comprehensive care

All of our residents at Cohuna Village have access to frequent visits from specialist providers including GP clinics, physiotherapists, dietitians, optometrists, speech pathologists and podiatrists. Our dedicated team of social care coordinators curate entertainment, events, activities, and therapies designed to inspire interest, and participation and promote better health and wellbeing. Trips to nearby areas of interest are made easy with a dedicated bus.

### Healthy and well-balanced meals

Our chefs provide delicious and nutritious meals using only the freshest of ingredients, prepared daily on-site. Our residents enjoy a wide variety of food with a seasonally rotating menu, with daily fare including three main meals and three snacks. We also accommodate all special dietary requirements.

### **A sense of community**

Guided by our values of respect, care, and integrity our staff are focused on providing a warm and compassionate environment for our residents to enjoy. At Cohuna Village, we see our residents as people, not patients. The relationship between our staff and our residents is important to us, which is why our bonds are strong and trusting and our residents and staff feel more like extended family.

### **Staying connected**

Friends and family can visit Cohuna Village at any time. However, we understand that it might not always be possible. For added peace of mind, remote video calls are always available so that you can stay connected with family and friends. Our team is skilled to assist with technology to set up a successful video call or assist in facilitating a visit from your loved ones, whenever you like.

## **Our history**

On 1st April 1969, Cohuna Lions Club convened a public meeting to seek support for a proposal to build a retirement village in Cohuna after having identified the need for accommodation for elderly people in the community so that they can stay in familiar surroundings.

Approximately 500 people attended this meeting including representatives from all local organisations. On the 1st of May 1969, a provisional committee was formed, and the project was named 'Cohuna Elderly Citizens Society'. This later became 'The Elderly Citizens Village' and in 1989, it formally became known as 'Cohuna Retirement Village'.

By 1998, there was a waiting list of over 50 people for Cohuna. The Management Committee decided to build a further nine rooms plus a craft room.

A lounge room was also incorporated into these renovations to leave the dining room free for meals instead of the former lounge room as well.

An appeal was conducted and thanks to a very caring community, the fund was oversubscribed in a month. The building began in February and was completed in October 1989.

In 2002 the committee decided to build a dementia unit due to the ever-increasing waiting list and the need for a special care unit. In October 2004, an 11-bed Dementia Unit was opened for \$1.5 million, and the Village became an Ageing-in-Place Facility.

This was made possible thanks to a Government Grant of \$300,000 and various donations and borrowings. The unit was named 'Merle Hipworth House' after Merle Hipworth, a lifetime member of the committee who was known for her hard work and dedication to the Village.

The Village was initially meant as a place where the frail and aged go to live their twilight years in comfort, but there is now a greater need for more complex care and increasing demand for dementia care in the local community.

## Steps on the path to aged care living

Before becoming a resident at Cohuna Village, it's important for you and your loved ones to have an open, honest discussion about your needs and budget. For many, moving to residential aged care can be a significant lifestyle change that comes with many questions. Before you begin your journey, there are a couple of steps you can take to assess if this is the right move for you.

### 1. Determine your eligibility

To determine if you're eligible for aged care, you will need to be assessed by the Aged Care Assessment Service (ACAS) through My Aged Care, the Australian Government body responsible for aged care services. This can be organised through a doctor, social worker, or health professional.

For more information on Aged Care Assessments, you can speak with your doctor or a member of our helpful Customer Service team on 1300 144 144.

### 2. Find the right home

Everyone is different and that's why an aged care home that's a perfect fit for one person isn't necessarily the perfect fit for another. Finding the right aged care home is all about personal preferences, specific requirements, and aesthetic taste. That's why at Respect, we create our homes to offer something for everyone and to be as accommodating as possible.

You can book a tour of any of our Respect aged care homes to allow you to speak with residents and members of staff to provide a well-rounded view

of what we offer. To book a tour of our homes you can contact a member of our helpful Customer Service team on 1300 144 144.

### 3. Understand costs

Your own personal circumstances and financial situation will influence the amount you pay for an aged care facility. The Government determines how much you pay or may be required to contribute. To better understand the costs associated with residential aged care, we recommend seeking financial advice before applying. The cost of residential aged care consists of care fees and accommodation fees, which we cover below:

- Basic daily fee: Covers living costs, such as meals, electricity, and laundry.
- Means based fee: This fee is calculated by the Department of Human Services based on your income and assets and is a contribution to the cost of your personal and clinical care.
- Accommodation payment: Paid through an upfront amount, daily payment or a combination of both, this cost includes the room that you will occupy.
- Extra services fee: There may be fees associated with any additionally elected optional services.

### 4. Apply to live at Cohuna Village

After determining your eligibility and understanding fees, all prospective residents need to complete and submit an application. You may fill out an application in person at any of our homes. We recommend that you fill out an application with the assistance



of your doctor and/or loved ones. Applicants may apply to multiple locations at the same time and are free to decline any offer.

### 5. Move in

As soon as we've determined that we can meet your needs and have a suitable vacancy, you will be notified with an offer of residence, along with a move-in date. If there are no available vacancies, we'll let you know when a space becomes available. You will be provided with a Resident Agreement, which outlines the services, fees, rights, and responsibilities. This legal document will need to be signed and returned before moving in.

## We're here, every step of the way

At Respect, we know that choosing the right aged care home can be a daunting task. That's why our qualified and professional staff are experts in aged care and here to help guide and support you through the process. We can help with navigating assessment processes and the necessary paperwork and documentation to make your transition to residential aged care a breeze.

Contact our friendly Customer Relationship Consultant to set up an in-home consultation:

**Amy O'Bryan**  
0427 157 144

## About Respect

**"We believe the elderly are individual people with rich histories and worthwhile lives and age does not diminish their value."**

As a proud not for profit organisation since 1922, Respect Aged Care serves older residents through our high standard of care and community. Our focus is on giving back to older adults by fostering communities of belonging. Headquartered on the northwest coast of Tasmania, our philosophy remains: everyone deserves the right to a life well-lived, with dignity and respect.

Our organisation is constantly growing and with more than 15 homes, 1,300 residents and 1,700 employees spanning three states, we know what it takes to provide exceptional care to older Australians.

## Our values include:

**Respect** Treat all people with fairness and dignity.

**Integrity** Be open, honest, and trustworthy.

**Care** Look after and protect older people and each other.

**Innovation** Think differently to solve problems.

**Teamwork** Encourage, cooperate, and build trust.

**Excellence** Drive quality to continuously improve.

**Courage** Do the right thing, even when it's difficult.

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**Opening Hours**  
Monday – Friday  
9 am – 5 pm

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