

Welcome Note

Summer 2022

Another year has ended with the challenges of COVID as we look forward positively to 2022.

Christmas has come and gone and was very different this year with our many families missing from celebrations. Staff worked hard to make the month of December special for our residents. The facility was beautifully decorated with trees, decorations and solar lights in the courtyards. The photo booth in reception, along with our singing and dancing Santa, were the centre for much fun and many memories created.

It has been great to welcome back visitors and thank you all for your support in making sure processes are followed to minimise risk to our residents.

Activities and Celebrations

During the previous lockdown, the Activities Team were busy looking for interesting ways to keep the residents entertained. Among the ideas was making a dance video. The residents danced to the Bee Gees' music "Staying Alive". Many of the residents enjoyed showing off their moves to the camera. The staff also took part in an impromptu group dance. The video shoot took months to complete with a lot of fun and laughter. After the holidays we were able to watch our very own CHT Waiuku's dance video.

There was also a Nativity play by the residents. They played the role of Mary and Joseph, Angel Gabriel, the inn keeper, the shepherd, and the three wise men which were actually three wise women in our play. Their voice acting skills were shown and new talents were discovered.

Nativity Play by the Residents



Residents are now enjoying the gardens now the sunflowers that they planted are in bloom. Tomatoes and strawberries are being cultivated and enjoyed by our green fingered residents.

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Improvements and Initiatives

The path around the back of the building was refurbished and now has a much smoother surface which is appreciated by our residents walking group. The security gates at each end of the building give added security for residents but are easily opened by residents to access the gardens.

A drape company have been onsite and will be making blinds for the glass ceiling near the main lounge. While the sunshine coming in is beautiful, shade is needed to reduce the risk of residents getting too hot.

Tanya our hairdresser commenced at the beginning of December much to our residents delight. Everyone is looking much tidier and well groomed.

Resident Stories

Betty was born in Napier in 1922 and lived there for 20 years. Napier suffered a devastating earthquake on Feb 3rd, 1931. Betty was just 9 years old. Her school was demolished during the quake and she remembers being outside at playtime whilst the ground shook and rattled and she observed part of her school crumble like a pack of cards.

At the age of 15, Betty got her first job in an office in Napier. In 1939 Betty met her husband Bill, at the services club in Napier during the war. He worked in the Merchant Navy as an engineer. They had 3 days together before his ship sailed. They corresponded for 4 years before he returned home after the war.

Courting recommenced and 10 days later they married in Taupo on 11th June 1946 and were married for 46 years.

Betty is a much loved resident in our facility and is very happy here. We look forward to celebrating her 100th Birthday in October.

Betty Margaret Dawson



Thank you to the many families who donated chocolates, biscuits, cakes, flowers to our staff in December. It is wonderful to be able to share with the team across all shifts. You never saw a box of chocolates disappear so quickly!

Volunteer Heather popped in last week to farewell residents. Heather will be missed by the card group and for her knitting skills. As her visa was expiring Heather has returned to England but plans to return to Waiuku in the future.

Thank you too, to everyone within this community who make CHT Waiuku a very special place.

Best Wishes

Unit Manager,

Margaret Ward

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