

## Newsletter March 2008

Hello everyone.

We hope things are going well for you in the new year which is well under way now. Easter is already upon us again!

It is three months ago now that we took over the rest home and we are settling into our new roles. We've been through a hectic time and climbed a steep but satisfying learning curve.

We were humbled by the positive reactions and encouragement we received from a lot of you, both from residents and their family as well as staff. We endeavour to keep the 'positiveness' going.

Recently we have been making some changes to the work roster.

Carol has taken on the role of full time cook and Sherry Gagen has joined as house keeper for 4 hrs daily Monday to Friday. The aim of these two changes is to get more consistency in the cooking and the house keeping side of things.

Two new caregivers, Barbara Hitchcock and Amelia Aitchison, have also joined us recently, adding to the already wonderful bunch we have.

To make staff look their best, we are also looking at new uniforms. It might be a while though before a decision is reached. Try to get a group of women to agree on an outfit! Anyway, watch this space.

In January the rest home had a provisional audit carried by the Ministry of Health (MOH) and we passed. A full MOH audit will take place in August.

On top of that, the Manukau District Health Board is doing an audit in April. So if we aren't running a tip top place by then, well?!



Sharon's three chickens have also arrived, as well as a black frizzie chicken given to us by resident Sybil's daughter.



# Glenbrook Rest Home

On Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March eleven of our residents went to Glenbrook for a steam train ride. It was a nice day and no one got lost!



Waiting for the train from left: Caregiver Rosalie, Valda, Scotty, THE BOSS, Laurie, Joy, Vi, Susanne (at back), Don, Peg (behind Don) and James.

Peter's van is available for outings, so we are now able to go on trips more frequently. On one of those trips our activity person Robyn took some residents to Clarks Beach for an ice cream. Another trip went to resident Scottie's family house for a beautiful morning tea.

Slightly more serious stuff.

Residents regularly have expenses such as for hair dressing, podiatrist, alcoholic drinks etc. that get paid out of their kitty that is kept in the rest home office. We ask that relatives keep the kitty topped up to at least \$100. It makes life a lot easier if any expenses can be paid directly from the residents kitty without us having to go around and collect it. Receipts of all expenses are kept. The podiatrist visit the rest home every two months and hairdresser Derrel visits every Monday morning.

## BARBEQUE

We are having a barbeque at the rest home on Saturday April 12 from midday till 2pm. We would like to invite you and your family to this opportunity to catch up. We will provide coffee, tea, soft drinks, sausages and salads. If you prefer steak or other meat, bring it along and we'll cook it for you. All staff are invited as well, so it should be good. Please RSVP by 4<sup>th</sup> April. See you then!

As always, feel free to approach us with any concerns or questions you might have. Give us a ring or call into the rest home. Thank you for your support.

Sharon and Peter.