

Newsletter February 2010 and Resident/Relative Survey

Hello everyone. Another newsletter again. Have had hot and muggy weather recently. At times we saw dark clouds over Pukekohe and Waiuku and they had heavy downpours at times. Not Glenbrook though. Hope everyone enjoyed the holiday season which is almost over.

Norovirus

Fortunately we have had no reoccurrence of the norovirus, thanks to efforts and cooperation by staff and residents alike. It has been a valuable lesson for all involved.

Resident/Relative Survey

Attached is the annual resident/relative survey, this time in a slightly different format. Please complete it and send it back in the enclosed envelope. We want to know what we're good and not so good at. It will help us inch forward to perfection!

BBQ

A BBQ is planned for 13 March. Relatives and friends are invited. Please pass on this invitation. More details to follow.

Bring residents a treat!

When you or other relatives/friends plan to visit, why not ring beforehand to ask the resident if you can bring a favourite food, such as a hamburger or KFC. It would be a real treat!

Cost of Toiletries

We find we are supplying an increasing amount of toiletries such as toothpaste, Steradent (for dentures) and soap/shampoo. Contractually we are entitled to on-charge toiletries and most facilities already do so. We have postponed it as long as possible, but we can no longer bear those costs. Our plan is to use money from resident's kitties to pay for toothpaste, tooth brushes, shampoo/conditioner, soap and Steradent denture cleaning, as required and no more than the rest home pays for it. Only residents that actually use our toiletries will be charged. For instance, only residents who use liquid soap from the dispensing bottles in the bathrooms will be charged for soap. Those residents that use their own soap, will not.

Having said this, we do prefer residents to use the dispensing soap as it is cleaner and much easier (and in the end more economical for all involved).

If you prefer to supply toiletries yourself, or for any other queries, please see Peter or Sharon to discuss.

Complaints

Just a reminder that we do have a Complaints Policy at the rest home and complaint forms are available in the top lounge. We hope you will not have to revert to those and come and talk to us first, but if you feel you need to, they are there.

Staff

Staff members Collette and Marike recently completed their Aged Care Education (ACE) training module. Congratulations to them for their achievement.



Marike (left) and Collette

Animals and Grounds

No real new developments at the animal front. Chickens are laying eggs, although we do not always know exactly where. Toby is quietening down a little bit and is liked by all. Work on garden improvement is steadily moving forward. The banana trees at the back have been cut down to improve the view from the dining room, although they are ferociously growing again. The area around the pump shed at the front is progressing well and the driveway entrance has been much improved with garden edging, post peelings ground cover and day lilies. Once the lilies mature they will put on a lovely colourful display.



New garden at rest home entrance

Kind regards, Sharon and Peter.

PTO for Activities

Activities

As the annual Glenbrook Vintage Railway fundraising train trip for the Glenbrook Kindergarten was cancelled due to the norovirus outbreak, we have decided to organise a fish and chips (and ice cream?) trip to Kaiawa on Tuesday February 9. If the weather is uncooperative we'll go one week later, Tuesday February 16.

We plan for all residents to go, so if anyone is keen to come along and help or take some residents in their car, that would be much appreciated. Please contact activities coordinator Corinne or Sharon if interested. For the duration of summer we have put up a new gazebo on the deck area. This provides some extra space for residents to sit outside whilst being protected from the sun. An ideal place for our paddling pool!



Telling stories. From left: Marie, Activities Coordinator Corinne, Phyllis and Vi



Going for a walk on a sunny day. From left: Caregiver Heather, Eleanor, Activities Coordinator Corinne, Marie, Nancy and Toby.



Cooling their feet. From left: Thelma, Activities Coordinator Corinne, Joy and Peg.