

## Newsletter April 2010

Hello everyone.

The weather has not changed a lot since our last newsletter. Still very dry, although temperatures have dropped somewhat and we've had some rain.

### Resident/Relative Survey

Thank you to those who have filled in and returned the resident/relative survey. And a request for those who didn't, to make the effort next time. Only seven were returned!

The surveys we did get in, provided a very positive feedback (we love those).

A comment was made about the fact that delicate clothing items do not get washed separately. We know this can be tricky and although we'd love to wash items separately, in reality it is not practical for us to do so. We request family/relatives to advise Sharon of any clothing items that need special care so we can keep them aside for them to take home and wash.

### BBQ

The March 13 BBQ went well with plenty of food to go around. A good time was had by all. The weather was kind and it only started to rain just after the BBQ was over. Good timing! The two new gazebos we put up provided a colourful shading arrangement.

### Change of Season

Cooler times are upon us now that autumn has set in. On your next visit please check that your resident has sufficient winter clothes, so they can dress appropriately (and warm!) for the season.



BBQ time: residents and friends enjoy sausages and salad

### Staff

Caregiver Marike has left us to concentrate on her baby which is due in July. We wish her all the best and no doubt she will call in with the new arrival.

Denise has joined us as a new caregiver. Welcome to our (rest home) world!

Housekeeper Christine celebrated her working at the rest home for a year by doing a painting of a rooster on corrugated iron and donating it to the rest home. It is on display at the back wall of the rest home on the right as you walk through the back gate. Thank you Christine.

### Animals and Grounds

Nothing new regarding the animals other than mentioning that Glen and Brook have lost some weight due to the grass not growing very well in the recent drought. Still plenty of fat on them though!

Those of you who came to the BBQ might have noticed the increased space on the deck. This is because the fish pond which was hardly visible and overgrown with water lilies, has been covered over with decking. We wondered how the goldfish survived all those years as they were never fed or got any care. They were repatriated to the pond of caregiver Barbara where they came from originally.

### Shared Rooms

The rest home has four shared rooms and most residents prefer single rooms, although some are quite happy to share and enjoy the company. We keep a 'waiting list' for those residents who would like to move to a single room. As single rooms become available, the resident at the top of the list usually moves into the single room. We say 'usually', because sometimes we feel a resident would be better off to wait for a single room in a different area. For instance, upstairs has narrow hallways and small toilets, which make it less suitable for a resident who needs a walker or is less mobile. If you have any queries regarding this, please contact Sharon or Peter.



Rex, our milkman, enjoys a 'scrap' with Toby.

Kind regards, Sharon and Peter.

### PTO for Activities

## Activities

Hello everyone,

We had a lovely day out at Kaiaua in February. Most of our residents came. Peter drove the bus, Sharon and I took our cars and we drove through the lovely countryside and stopped by the sea for a Fish and Chips lunch. Everyone was entertained by Toby, who decided to paddle in the mud!! The weather was sunny and a little windy, but we managed to shelter everyone from the wind. We stopped again a little further down the road for an ice cream and then returned to the rest home for afternoon tea.

We have been busy planting herbs and they are now ready for eating. Some of our residents have planted spring bulbs, so we look forward to a lovely display of daffodils in the coming months.

We have been making use of the good weather by taking the bus out for afternoon drives. We have been to Kariotaihi and Clarks Beach - stopping for an ice cream of course!



Our latest trip was to Pukekohe Town Hall to see Joy Adams on the 7th April. She is a real favourite among our residents and an enjoyable all round entertainer. She sings old time favourites, country and a bit of comedy. Everyone enjoyed the afternoon.

Fish and Chips at Kaiaua

We will soon be having a visit from our llamas. Murray kindly brings them for the residents to see. They are impeccably behaved and are even house trained!!

Corinne.

## Eating peanuts

A caregiver in a rest home was talking to one of the newly arrived residents and was nibbling away at a bowl of peanuts the resident had on the table. She looked at her watch. Time had flown and she said: "My goodness, the time has gone by quickly. I have to tend to other people here too." "That's okay.", said the resident, "It's always nice to talk to someone."

Looking into the bowl the caregiver said: "I feel awful! I ate almost all of your peanuts!". The resident responded: "That's okay. Ever since I got these false teeth, all I could do was suck the chocolate off of them anyway."