

## Newsletter and Survey March 2011

Hello everyone.

This newsletter is a bit later than we intended, but that's how it goes at times. A very minor detail indeed when compared to the ordeal some Christchurch people are going through this very moment.

### Staff Training Day

Another staff training day from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm is coming up on Wednesday March 23. So if you can, please save any queries for the next day as we will only have skeleton staff on duty that day.

### BBQ

Please note in your diaries **Saturday, March 26**. We will be having a BBQ for residents, relatives/friends and staff. See enclosed invitation for details.

### Staff

As always, life never stays the same. Three long serving staff decided to leave us. Barbara B has semi retired so she can spend more time with family. Lynn is moving to Napier where her partner has accepted a job, and Barbara O has found a caregiving job closer to home in Papatoetoe. All three are senior caregivers with between them quite a few years of experience. We thank them for their efforts over the years and wish them all the best for the future.

With being unlucky in good staff leaving, we have been lucky in finding very promising replacement caregivers. They are Sandra, Diane and Jeannette. We welcome them aboard. Make yourself known to them.

### Animals and Grounds

Ollie, the muscovy duck we introduced in the previous newsletter decided to 'resign' as well. He hung around at the neighbour's place for a while and then disappeared altogether. We also wish him well!

After three years of (occasional) nagging by Sharon, Peter has finally built a more permanent house for our kunekune pigs Glen and Brook. They had quite literally outgrown their small temporary home that was quickly erected after their arrival. Christine, our housekeeper, is a talented painter and she volunteered her time to paint two sides of the new pig house. What a colourful display she has created. It even made it into the Waiuku Post newspaper. The photo shows the painting in black and white. Make sure to go and see the real thing in full colour on your next visit!



### Change of Season

Summer is nearing the end and cooler times are ahead of us. On your next visit perhaps check your residents' wardrobe and drawers to make sure they have available some warmer clothes to wear. For safety and tidiness reasons, please take home any items not used by a resident. It helps reducing clutter and the risk of falls in residents' rooms, both for residents and staff.

### Toiletries

Just a reminder that from time to time we take money out of residents' kitties to pay for toiletries that not included as part of rest home care. For instance, special shampoos, denture creams, toothbrushes and toothpaste. All kitty transactions are fully documented and a print out is available upon request.

### Survey

You will have noticed the annual survey included with this newsletter. We would very much appreciate if you could take the time to fill it out. We know filling out surveys is tedious, but your feedback is very valuable to us to identify areas where we can improve. And also, we love to get compliments! To make it easier for you, we have enclosed a stamped return envelope. Please don't let it go to waste.

Kind regards, Sharon and Peter.

**Please turn over ....**

## Activities

A very belated happy New Year to everyone. Our Christmas festivities seem such a long time ago. A busy time it was. We had Christmas lunch at the Cossie Club on Dec 4, a visit to the Waiuku Christmas lights display on Dec 10, Christmas Carols on Dec 13, Christmas lunch on Dec 14 and Kindy kids visiting on Dec 15. We also managed a few trips out in our van, for a very welcome ice cream and to Wrights Water Gardens to see the Lotus festival. The residents really enjoyed the beautiful flowers. Our next trip will be to a avocado orchard in Clarks Beach. We will have a picnic lunch and a guided walk and talk. We hope most of our residents will come along and enjoy the day. Our vegetable garden and raised beds have been very productive with cherry tomatoes, silver beet, celery, cabbages, beetroot, cucumber and herbs. This week we have harvested our potatoes which we were growing in old tyres! A bucket full was gathered, with 'assistance' from Toby . To everyone's delight he was frantically digging away as well.



Visit to Wrights Water Gardens

Hope to see you all at our BBQ on March 26.

Corinne.



Christmas lunch. Tasty food is always appreciated.

