

Newsletter November 2011

Hello all. Here we are again, well on our way to Xmas 2011!
Since our last newsletter in August, not a lot has really happened to be honest.

Xmas Dates

Please mark in your diary **Wednesday, December 7**: Xmas Carols Night at 6:30 pm. Family and friends are invited to come along and give their throat and airways a good clearing out by joining in with the favourite Xmas songs. Noes with her guitar will lead the way. Nibbles, finger food and drinks, including soft drinks, coffee, tea, beer and wine (not whine!) are provided to ensure you're not running out of puff. Another date to remember, although more relevant to residents, is **Thursday, December 15**. This is the day we have our residents Xmas dinner at lunch time while they are all together. Sharon will be asking you if you are taking your loved ones out for Christmas day and if you can let her know what time leaving and coming back that would be appreciated. Some ideas for Christmas presents for residents: wheat bags, toiletries, clothes, underwear, shoes, photo/pictures for their wall and sweets, etc.

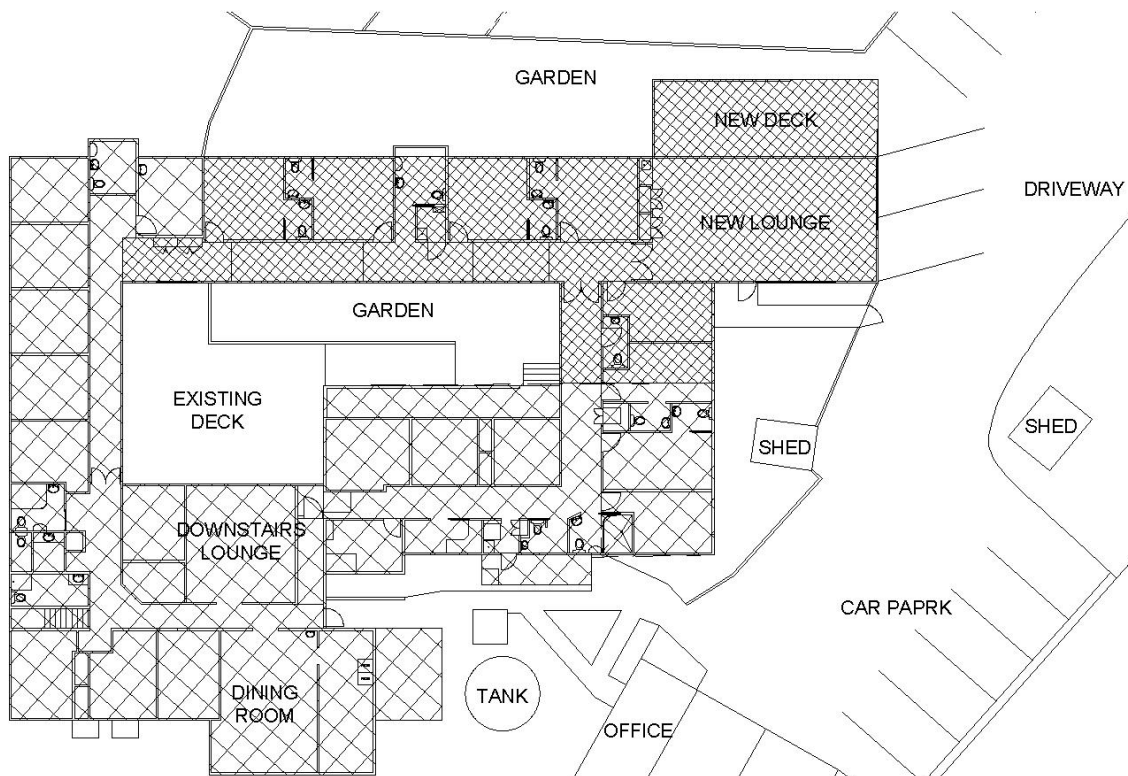
Reminders

The warmer seasons have well and truly arrived. So please check the resident's wardrobe and replace winter clothing with something cooler for summer. Please check toiletry stock, as well as replacing worn tooth brushes. Could this be done on a three monthly basis please. Remember to visit the resident's craft shelf in top lounge. You might see something you like.

Rest Home Extension

We have been working on plans to extend the rest home for the last year or so. We looked at various scenarios and have settled on a modest expansion from 19 to 23 beds. The primary reason for our plans is the elimination of three of the four shared rooms we have. So often, potential residents and family come to inspect the rest home and really like it. Peaceful, quiet, homely and personal. When we mention that, initially at least, the resident will be sharing a room until a single one becomes available, the enthusiasm drops and they're off to somewhere else.

The shared rooms are too small to be split into two and will be changed into single rooms by simply removing the second bed. To make up for the loss of these beds and to add a few more, we planned the extension as shown below. The more finely cross hatched area shows the new rest home part.



The extension plans have been lodged with council and we're hopeful to get the go ahead soon. Watch this space.

PTO

Elections

Please note that residents will have had the opportunity to vote at a temporary voting booth set up at the rest home on the afternoon on Friday Nov 18. So no need for families to organise transport on election day. A video was taken for electoral training purposes with each of the resident's agreement.

Training/ Staff

Sandra, Sherry and Sue have all completed the first course of the Aged Care Programme and are on the way to doing the second one. Collette has completed all three and has received the National Certificate. Congratulations. Other caregivers are in process of doing the first course. Please see Sharon for further information.

Valuables

While we encourage residents to have lots of personal items to make their stay with us as homely as possible, we do prefer residents not to have very valuable jewellery, ornaments and the like. Although we put in every effort to prevent it, there is always the risk of items being misplaced or going missing. Please advise Sharon or Peter of all valuables that are brought into the rest home. We like to have on record what valuables there are and take photos of those items as well.

Cheers Sharon, Peter and staff. Wishing you all a happy hopliday season/break and a brilliant 2012!

Activities

The festive season is here and we have lots of activities planned for the coming weeks.

Firstly our annual pilgrimage to the Glenbrook Steam Railway which was on Fri Nov 18, so we hope the weather will be kind to us. We take a trip on the train and then a picnic lunch and ice cream, yum!

Our farm trip to Clevedon to watch the horses play foot ball was enjoyable.

On December 13 we will enjoy a visit from the Glenbrook Kindy Children, who are always popular with our residents. The Christmas carols evening will be on Wed December 7. Please come and join us. I

look forward to meeting you all. We are planning our craft programme to include table decorations for our Christmas Dinner on Dec 15.

We will be having a residents meeting in the next few weeks. We will also take a trip to the Waiuku Christmas display which is always a popular outing.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a safe and happy festive season.

Corinne.

