

Newsletter October 2012

Hello all. Here we are again, well on our way to Xmas 2012!

Winter is nearly gone but those winter bugs are still around. There are a number of hand sanitising stations scattered around the rest home and we asked visitors to use them to cleanse their hands, when they arrive and as they go out the door to leave. You might have heard about the norovirus outbreaks in a few public hospitals. We do our utmost to keep the rest home clear and we appreciate your understanding and cooperation. Wash/sanitise those hands!

Christmas Dates

Please mark in your diary **Wednesday, December 5**: 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 **Tuesday, December 11**. 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

Please check the resident's wardrobe and replace winter clothing with something cooler for summer. Check toiletry stock, as well as replacing worn tooth brushes.

Rest Home Extension

Still a work in progress. The plans were all approved, but then the bank decided that the amount of funding we were seeking was on the (too) high side. To be honest - they were right. So we have revamped the plans from the Rolls Royce version to a more modest Ford/Holden model. We are waiting for the bank's response.

Training/ Staff

Sherry has completed the entire ACE course now and received the National Certificate. A great milestone to reach. Well done Sherry.

Swaz has completed her first of the three ACE modules and is working on the second one, ACE Advanced. Diane has completed this one and is working on the ACE Dementia Programme.

As you see, training is ongoing.

Glenbrook Rest Home

We have also seen some more changes in your staff team. Caregiver Yvonne has left Glenbrook Rest Home for retirement after 13 years of service. She can now direct her energy at grandchildren and photography. Thank you Yvonne and all the best.

Caregiver Jo has also left us to work with her husband at home in their own business. We wish her well. Our team has been joined by Elaine and Sheryl. Elaine is a fully experienced and trained caregiver. Sheryl has less care giving experience but we're sure she will pick up things. Both Elaine and Sheryl have just come back from overseas holidays that had been arranged prior to employment at GBRH. Welcome aboard.

Staff Study Day on Tuesday, October 16.

This day is a full day study day for all our staff and management. It is one of the requirements of our contract with MoH and DHB that staff receive a certain number of hours training each year. Some subjects, for instance Back Care, Privacy, Elder Abuse, Fire Drills, etc. are compulsory.

For that day we ask resident's relatives to avoid contacting us, instead contact us the day before, or delay until the day after. Of course this does not apply 100% of the time. If something is really urgent, needless to say, do contact us.



Residents enjoying midwinter Christmas dinner on July 10

Roadworks

When driving through Wymer Rd you will notice major roadworks going on. The road has been neglected for some years and the powers to be have finally made the decision to upgrade and widen it. We have used the opportunity to request to move the rest home drive way more towards the middle of the rest home car park, which improves the layout and usability.

We have also requested the construction of a footpath, but we were too late for that to be included in this project. As there is space available, we are lobbying to have a foot path added at a later stage. It would make for much safer walking for our residents.

Activities

Hello Everyone,

We are all looking forward to the coming weeks with Winter behind us at last.

On Friday 19th we have 3 ladies coming to entertain for the afternoon. One is an old friend and neighbour of one of our residents and was delighted to be able to come and sing for us. They will also come again nearer Christmas. We also are planning a lunch at the Waiuku Cosmopolitan Club in November and we hope to have an outing to the Botanic Gardens when the weather is more settled. I am trying to arrange another demonstration and sale of handmade chocolates before Christmas. We will of course be out and about in our bus for afternoon trips and an ice cream.

Our last outing was to The Positive Ageing Expo last Friday 5th Oct. Those who went enjoyed the entertainment and morning tea.

I hope to meet you all again very soon. Corinne.