

Welcome

Autumn 2024

As Yates wrote in his poem, The Wild Swans of Coole "The leaves are in their autumn colours". The mature oak trees at Carnarvon have provided a lovely sight as they change colour. While this beauty does not last and is a reminder that winter is near it has provided us time to plant daffodils in preparation for spring. Len Sharp has been very busy ensuring that we will have a great display.

Autumn has also seen the appointment of our second Activities Coordinator and this has resulted in us being able to further increase the choice of activities and outside visits for residents including visits to the free concerts for those who enjoy a classical experience, with afternoon tea included.

Activities and Celebrations

ANZAC Day at Carnarvon



Along with the usual celebrations we celebrated ANZAC day with the residents making Cross and Poppy badges. This was particularly moving for those who had relatives who fought in the second World War and one who's uncle lost his life in Vietnam. The commemoration lasted one week and some people are still wearing their badges.

Mothers Day was a big success, with all ladies receiving a special gift to celebrate their day. A special lunch was also provided.

We celebrated Waitangi Day by having the TV 's in all lounges tuned to TV 1

to watch the dawn celebrations as well as the midday one.

As stated with our new Activity Coordinator comes the opportunity to do new activities. These included visits to the airport to watch the arriving and departing flights. The van was well placed to get a clear view. This was followed by freshly made strawberry milkshakes at the Strawberry farm and café.

Mothers Day celebrations in Waitakere lounge



Improvements and Initiatives



Many of our Residents are very keen artists . This includes drawing, painting and rug making. I felt that having these great works hidden away in drawers or rooms sad as they should be celebrated. I have approached the Corbans Artist group to see if they would be interested in a joint celebration of their work as well. I am pleased to say they are as excited as both Activity Coordinators and me are. We will trial a joint display in the Henderson Lounge in August. This will also provide all, including members of the public to visit and if they wish to purchase pieces.

Resident Stories

Gladys left school at 12 years old. At 13 years old she found out there were jobs going at the hospital so walked in and applied. They told her she could start the next day doing domestic duties. When she started the next day, the Matron said that she had found out she was 13 years old and would need to call and check with the Board if she could keep the job. They told her if Gladys looked older, she could stay on. The matron agreed that she looked older and she started working. At 15, she started nursing and looked after children, adults and maternity patients. When she turned 18 she left Timaru for training in Ratahi, it was an overnight train, an overnight boat and a morning train to get there. At the time, her mother was pregnant with her 15th child. She passed with honours and was the only one in her class to do so! .

Gladys Gale



Note from the Care Home Manager

While it is a pleasure to welcome Sue Giles as Activity Coordinator it is with sadness that we see Grace Harley our Care Home Administrator depart for new pastures. Grace has been intimately involved with residents and their families during the admission process and day to day communication. Apart from being a shining light at Carnarvon Grace has also assisted other CHT facilities in the orientation of new Care Home Administrators. While we will miss her I know that her future will be successful.

If you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact me.

Ngā manaakitanga
Care Home Manager,
Gerry Fennelly
Gerry.Fennelly@cht.co.nz