

Welcome

Winter / Spring 2024

It would have been a dream to hibernate just like the bears and other animals during winter but even in the coldest and harshest of seasons, life must go on! Either we remain curled up in bed under our blankets for an extra minute or two or chase what makes us tick and brings warmth to our hearts.

Yes Winter can be pretty subdued but it can also be opportunity take life as it is and reflect on it, establish new and old connections and recharge our depleted batteries.

Now go and take those cardigans, thermals, beanies, gloves, woollen socks and thick clothes off as we move towards the joys of Spring and what it has to offer!

Activities and Celebrations

Residents gathered in the Camellia Lounge for some fun activities and entertainment for Samoan Language



In June, Samoan staff headed by Julie (Activities Coordinator) highlighted the beauty and richness of their culture by teaching basic Samoan phrases and preparing a Samoan drink for the residents. Kitchen staff Monika and Freida also prepared Samoan pancakes and cupcakes to make the event more meaningful.

The team also celebrated Matariki through creativity and learning! The residents had a great time discovering more about the significance of this event by familiarising themselves with the nine stars and participating in Matariki-themed festivities.

We then enjoyed a special mid-winter Christmas lunch. Our regular entertainer, Steve, serenaded the residents with some Christmas songs and other all-time favourites. He went from one area/suite to another and the residents and their families had a lovely time singing while having their meal.

On 9th August, unique and diverse cultures at St Margarets were showcased in celebration of Cultural Diversity Day. Staff wore their traditional outfits to work, danced to some native/ethnic music and shared their sumptuous delicacies with residents and one another. Overall, the event was received with so much positivity and gusto.

Residents and staff all smiles in celebration of Cultural Diversity Day



Improvements and Initiatives

St Margarets parking area refurbishment



The parking area around the care home has been revamped. The cracks on the concrete were smoothed and potholes removed for a better parking experience, not just for residents' families, visitors but also staff. This initiative was not a walk in the park as it meant constant car movements to minimise car flow interruptions and facilitate repair of problem areas but with everyone's effort and patience, this was completed within a reasonably short period of time. Well done to the maintenance team and of course the contracted paving specialists for making this project possible and turning it into a reality!

Resident Stories

Anna Coad was born in Tahiti and is the second oldest child in the family of 7 children, with her Czech parents. Her family moved to NZ when she was 13. Anna grew up in Glen Eden and became a teacher. She taught in Australia before moving to London where she met her husband. They married and had 2 daughters. She moved back to NZ after they separated in 1983. Anna went back to teaching and worked even after retirement, mostly at Rosebank Primary School.

As a young girl, she loved tennis and was a champion of the Glen Eden tennis club. She also played the violin and was the second violinist at the Avondale College orchestra. She has always loved animals, gardening and travelling. She had been to Greece, Egypt and Czech Republic among others.

Anna with her artwork



Note from the Care Home Manager

You might have received communications about my permanent appointment to the role as Care Home Manager, I am humbled and delighted to accept the challenge. My role may have changed, but here at St Margarets residents' safety and wellbeing have and always will be our top priority. No matter what season, let us all strive to make a difference in their lives while becoming better versions of ourselves along the process!

Preparations for Christmas and our residents Christmas Party have started and we will send you further details soon.

Best Wishes
Care Home Manager,
Robin Moll
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