

## Parkhaven newsletter

Welcome Summer 2025

Kia Ora and welcome to our Summer Newsletter! A warm greeting to all residents and families, and a special welcome to our new residents and their families. We encourage everyone in our care home to participate in the various activities, birthdays, cultural celebrations, and events. This helps keep everyone motivated and enhances each individual's quality of life.

We are excited to share the fantastic news that CHT Parkhaven was crowned the winner in the Best Care Home category of the Eldernet Annual Christmas Decoration Competition in December 2024! We will be receiving an amazing prize on 27 February 2025.

#### **Activities and Celebrations**

Diwali Celebration and Pet Therapy



To celebrate Diwali in October, the Activities team prepared bhajias (Indian vegetable savories) using silverbeet from our very own garden. Residents also joined in with the food preparation. The Bollywood dance performance by staff for the residents was a lot of fun, and we want to extend a huge thanks to those who practiced for the performance.

In October, we also celebrated Healthcare Assistants Appreciation Day, honoring our wonderful Healthcare Assistants team.

In November, Canine Friends Pet Therapy volunteer Katrine and her beautiful dog Charlie visited us. These visits are scheduled every fortnight on Mondays. Our residents absolutely love

Charlie's visits, showing their beautiful smiles as a "thank you."

Residents and staff came together in early November to watch the Melbourne Cup racing and dressed up in fancy hats and/or dresses for the occasion. The Christmas Party in December was a fantastic event, with family members joining residents in the celebration and enjoying the incredible Elvis Presley live music show performance.

In January, we celebrated Lunar New Year-the Year of the Snake. Residents participated in preparing fresh vegetables with Chinese noodles and a special Chinese dessert called tangyuan soup. They also enjoyed a trip to the Fo Guang Shan Buddhist Temple in Flat Bush.

Christmas and Luna New Year Celebration





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#### Improvements and Initiatives

Internal Painting and
Reduction of falls in Garden unit



The internal painting of our care home is nearly complete, and it looks refreshed and more spacious, particularly at both entrances and in the Garden unit. The residents' bedroom doors have been painted in darker colors to make them more visible, and the new colors complement the carpet.

Over the past three months, we've focused on reducing the total number of falls in the Garden unit. We introduced individual and group walks for residents, and have been closely monitoring those at high risk of falling. We also reviewed the residents' shower list to ensure staff were in the lounge, ready to supervise residents. A big congratulations to the team for successfully reducing falls and promoting safety for the residents in the Garden unit!

#### **Resident Stories**

Michael is a lovely 81 year old Cook Island Gentleman who joined CHT Parkhaven early in 2024. Michael attends most group activities and celebrations in the care home, he is happy and enjoys the care provided by the care home. Michael enjoys singing alone or music therapy, because he loves to play his Ukelele and Guitar. Michael is encouraged by his family to continue to attend the Cook Island Workshop in the community once a week and often returns with some food, which he allows the staff to keep stored correctly.

Michael used to travel to many countries when he was young. He studied at high school in New Zealand and was selected to attend Compulsory Military Training Service back in old days. Michael worked for the Cook Island Government for 30 years and is proud to tell us that Michael Joseph Savage who served as the 23rd Prime Minister of New Zealand is his third cousin.





### Note from the Care Home Manager

The care home refurbishment will continue throughout 2025. The internal painting is expected to be completed by the end of March, and new door signs will be ready for installation by the end of February. New curtains and vinyl flooring will be installed in March and we are currently measuring all the doors and walls for protection by the end of February. We sincerely thank you for your cooperation during the refurbishment process. A gentle reminder to residents and families to please take some time to complete the customer survey if you receive one. Your feedback is very important to us. The next Residents and Family meeting will be held on 20 March 2025 in the Buckland lounge.

Ngā manaakitanga.

Best Wishes Care Home Manager, Stella Ma Stella.ma@cht.co.nz