

Welcome

Summer 2026

Kia ora and welcome to our newsletter.

A warm welcome to our new residents and their families. We are delighted to have you join our community.

Over recent months we have enjoyed a busy time together, with Christmas celebrations, summer bus trips, barbecues, and park picnics making the most of the bright days and time outdoors.

Despite the challenging weather our wider community has experienced, our care home has remained a safe and supportive place for residents. Like many others, we have felt the impact of these events and are grateful for the strength and kindness shown by our community.

We look forward to the activities and moments of connection that the months ahead will bring.

## Activities and Celebrations



Residents enjoy going on shopping trips, particularly to choose plants and flowers to fill our gardens. The summer months brought many beautiful days to spend time outdoors planting, tending the gardens, and enjoying the fresh air together.

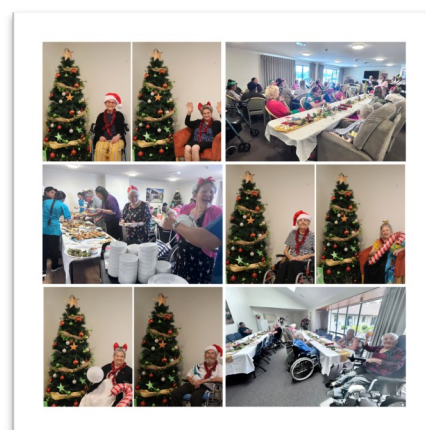
### Music, food and festive moments

We also enjoyed our mid-summer celebrations. Although it was a rainy day, the Golden Groovers Ukulele Group joined us and filled the morning with lovely music.

Residents later enjoyed a BBQ lunch with homemade punch, complete with mini umbrellas for a summery touch.

Family and friends joined us for Christmas lunch, where musical entertainment was shared across the three dining rooms. Everyone enjoyed the chance to boogie together, share a meal, and catch up with loved ones.

We also set up a camera for residents to take photos beside one of our Christmas trees, capturing moments of happiness and festive cheer that will be treasured for years to come.



## Improvements and Initiatives

We've had great success with our recent recruitment drive, welcoming several talented nurses and healthcare professionals to our Bernadette whānau.

We also addressed an issue with flying beetles linked to a tree on the council berm nearby. The situation was managed quickly, and a similar tree on our grounds was removed to help prevent the problem returning. We will continue to monitor the situation and be prepared should it arise again next year.

Following feedback from the whānau meeting late last year, we're pleased to share that families have responded positively to improvements in food experience. Our care staff are also now more familiar with the daily menu options displayed in the dining rooms, helping them better support residents at mealtimes.

## Resident Profile: Janet

Hello friends, my name is Janet and I am 83 years old. I have one brother, Terry, who lives in Hamilton, my identical twin sister Jillian who lives in Cherrywood, and a younger sister, Rowena, who lives in Feilding.

We moved often while I was growing up because my father served in the Air Force and was regularly transferred between stations. In fact, I've moved a total of 52 times in my life – and Bernadette will be my last.

I was first married at 21 and had two daughters, Kahren and Truis. They have given me five grandsons and one granddaughter. My eldest grandson, Paul, has three children of his own, so I'm now a proud great-grandmother to three great-grandchildren aged 10, 6, and 4.

I love my home here at Bernadette. The activities coordinators keep me happy and the care staff keep me healthy. I especially enjoy doing my diamond art – even more than jigsaw puzzles – and spending time with the other residents.



*Janet enjoying life at CHT Bernadette.*

## Note from the Care Home Manager

As we move into the autumn months, I'd like to thank everyone for helping make the past season such a special time in our home. It has been wonderful to see our Bernadette whānau continue to grow, with new residents joining us and positive changes taking shape following your feedback.

Residents have recently been offered COVID-19 booster vaccinations for those who wished to receive them. Flu vaccinations will also be available soon, and we will share further details with residents and families. Thank you for your continued support.

We look forward to many more shared moments and activities in the months ahead.

Best wishes,  
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