

Welcome

Summer 2026

Welcome to the CHT Onewa newsletter.

In this issue we're pleased to share highlights from recent activities, outings and everyday moments that make life at Onewa special.

Thank you to our residents, families and staff for being part of our community.

Activities and Celebrations

Residents recently enjoyed a van trip to a hologram zoo, where they explored lifelike dinosaurs and other incredible creatures in an immersive display. The experience sparked curiosity and excitement as residents interacted with the vibrant holographic scenes.

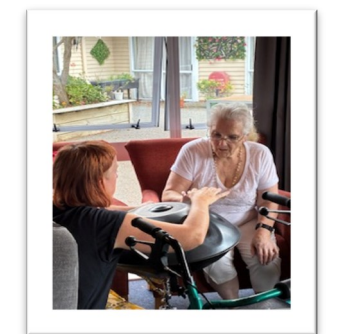
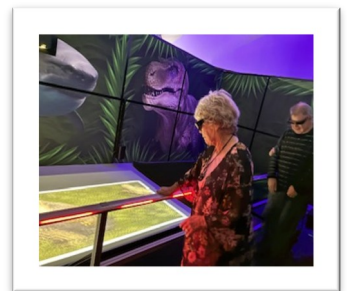
After the visit, the group finished the outing with a delightful ice cream treat, making it a perfect end to a memorable day. It was a wonderful opportunity for residents to enjoy one another's company while sharing plenty of light-hearted moments together.

Handpan music and relaxation

Back at Onewa, residents also took part in a relaxing handpan music activity. The gentle, soothing sounds of the instrument created a calm and reflective atmosphere, offering both mental and emotional benefits while helping to reduce stress.

Residents had the opportunity to listen to the soothing tones of the handpan and even try playing it themselves, exploring their creativity while enjoying the unique sounds it produces.

Residents enjoyed a lively entertainment session filled with music, kapa haka, line dance and great company, creating a cheerful atmosphere for everyone involved. The fun games encouraged participation, brought smiles to many faces, and supported social connection among residents.



Resident Profile: John

John's life has been a story of adventure, service and a deep connection to people.

Born in Wellington to an immigrant family with roots in South Africa and London, John's early life was shaped by diverse cultures. At 18, inspired by his father, he joined the New Zealand Army before later transferring to the British Army, where he saw combat in Malaya during the civil unrest.

After completing his service, John returned to New Zealand and went on to study civil engineering. His love of travel soon took him overseas again. From Denmark to Germany, he explored Europe in a Combi van before continuing further afield through Turkey, Persia, Pakistan and India. From there he travelled by boat to Ceylon before eventually returning home.

John's wanderlust has never faded – he has since made six return trips to the United Kingdom.

John has now lived at Onewa for several years and has become a much-loved member of the community, where his remarkable life journey continues to inspire those around him.



Note from the Care Home Manager

"Old age is not a disease – it is strength and survivorship, triumph over all kinds of vicissitudes and disappointments, trials and illnesses." – *Maggie Kuhn*

These words reflect the resilience, experience and strength that residents bring to our community. Each person here has their own story, and together those journeys make Onewa a very special place.

We're pleased to share a few updates from around the care home. Our courtyard has recently been refreshed with new flowers, adding colour and creating a peaceful space for residents to enjoy. New outdoor tables have also been added, providing comfortable places to sit, chat, enjoy a cup of tea, or simply spend time in the fresh air.

As the evenings grow cooler, the lights in the trees will begin to glow earlier, bringing a warm and welcoming atmosphere to the courtyard. Behind the scenes, we have also increased our care team hours to ensure residents continue to receive the attention and support they deserve. Our home remains vibrant, with strong occupancy and ongoing interest from people in the wider community who wish to join.

Thank you to our residents, families and staff for helping make Onewa such a warm and caring community.

Best wishes,
Teresa Jurkiewicz
Care Home Manager
Teresa.jurkiewicz@cht.co.nz