

Welcome

Summer 2026

A warm welcome to our new residents and their families. We hope you feel at home here at CHT Royal Oak.

Our resident meetings continue to be held on the fourth Friday of each month at 11am. Families and friends are always welcome to attend, and meeting minutes are available on the notice boards in each lounge.

If you have any suggestions, compliments or concerns, please feel free to speak with the team – your feedback is always appreciated.

Activities and Celebrations



A resident enjoying a singing class.



Focus during a craft session.

Our Activities Lead, Mehzabeen Nisha, continues to organise a wide variety of activities and outings for residents. These include visits from a range of entertainers, as well as opportunities for residents to enjoy music, games, crafts and social time together. The goal is to ensure there is always something enjoyable happening, with activities that suit a variety of interests and abilities.

Residents have also recently celebrated a number of special occasions, including Summer BBQs, Waitangi Day, Chinese New Year and St Patrick's Day. These events bring residents together to enjoy themed decorations, shared meals and entertainment. Birthdays are also recognised and celebrated within the home, helping to make each resident feel valued and remembered.

Recognising our staff

CHT also recognises staff throughout the year with a range of appreciation events, which Mehzabeen helps to coordinate. These moments acknowledge the dedication and hard work of the team who support residents every day. Care is taken to respect the preferences of those who may not wish to have their photo published.

Together, these activities help create a lively and supportive community where residents can stay engaged, connected and enjoy each day.

They also provide valuable opportunities for residents and staff to share moments of enjoyment and connection throughout the home.

Improvements and Initiatives



Resident gardener Ross with Emma, our Care Home Administrator.

Our gardens are flourishing thanks to the care of residents and staff. The garden has been producing a range of vegetables that are used in our midday meals. Tomatoes, capsicums, spinach, chillies, basil and parsley are all put to good use by our kitchen team, especially Head Chef Sofia.

The Spring/Summer menu, with its two main meal options, has been well received. The Autumn/Winter menu has also been developed by dietitians, CHT and Compass to include a wider range of cultural options.

Resident Profile: Ann and Philip

It's not every day that a parent and adult child come to live in the same care home. Couples are more common, but Ann and her son Philip share a special story.

Ann emigrated from Yorkshire, England to New Zealand in 1969 with her husband and three children, including Philip. Ann's husband initially had a three-year work contract, and she expected the family would return to the UK afterwards. However, they soon fell in love with life in New Zealand and decided to stay.

Philip still vividly remembers the six-and-a-half-week journey by ship to New Zealand and recalls what a great adventure it was. The family eventually settled in Paraparaumu, and later Philip went on to become a chef cadet in the Army.

In May 2022, Philip moved into Royal Oak. His mother Ann, who had been living in a retirement village, joined him in August 2025.

Philip says, "We are so grateful that Mum and I can live together here. Before this I used to catch three buses just to visit her. We are both very happy here."



Ann & Philip Ramsden.

Note from the Care Home Manager

We continue to make practical improvements across the care home to support day-to-day operations and resident comfort. One recent improvement that has proved its worth is the onsite generator. While it's not common for the facility to lose power, it can occasionally happen due to events in the local area.

When it does, the generator starts promptly and life at the care home can continue as normal – except for one memorable occasion. After one outage, we quickly discovered that the gas hot water system also needed to be reconnected, otherwise there would be no hot water for the next morning's showers. A good reminder that even the best systems sometimes come with a learning curve – and that we're always refining things behind the scenes to keep everything running smoothly.

Best wishes,
Nicki Wallace
Care Home Manager
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