Onewa newsletter

Welcome — Winter 2026

Kia ora everyone

While the days may be cooler, there's been no shortage of warmth at CHT Onewa. Over the past few months, our care home has been filled with shared celebrations, friendly conversation and everyday moments that have brought residents, families and staff together.

We hope you enjoy reading about some of those moments and catching up on life at Onewa.

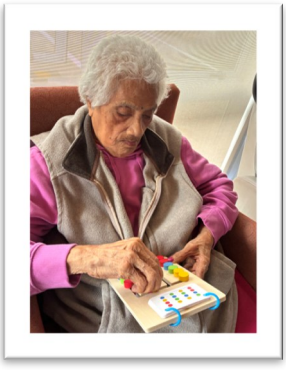
Winter reminder

As we move through winter, please help protect our residents by postponing your visit if you're unwell, practising good hand hygiene and following any guidance from our team. Thank you for helping keep our communities safe.

Activities and Celebrations

Mother's Day was celebrated with a special high tea, where residents gathered to enjoy delicious treats, warm conversation and each other's company. A visit from local daycare children was a highlight of the afternoon, bringing smiles, laughter and joy to our residents. Their cheerful energy created heartwarming intergenerational connections and made the celebration even more memorable.

The weeks that followed have been just as full of activity, with residents continuing to enjoy plenty of opportunities to spend time together. Puzzle sessions have sparked conversation and friendly collaboration, while board games have brought laughter and a little healthy competition. Regular sing-along sessions with our entertainer have once again filled the care home with familiar tunes, music and joyful conversation, bringing everyone together to share in the moment.



Creative colouring sessions have also become a favourite, giving residents the chance to slow the pace of the day and express their creativity. Bright colours and imaginative designs have brought each artwork to life, while the sessions have provided a peaceful setting for conversation and quiet companionship. It's a reminder that some of the most meaningful moments are often the simplest.

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Resident outings

Residents recently enjoyed two scenic van outings to Te Atatū River and Mission Bay. Along the way they took in beautiful coastal views, enjoyed fresh air and plenty of conversation, and spent time relaxing by the water. There was plenty of time to chat, reminisce and simply enjoy being out together, making the journey just as enjoyable as the destinations themselves.

Resident Stories: Meet Anne

Anne's 90 years have been filled with courage, resilience and adventure. Born in Northern Ireland as the second of 14 children, her childhood was shaped by uncertainty and hardship. Despite the challenges, Anne remained determined to gain an education, often walking miles to school alongside her siblings with the love and support of her mother.

As a young woman, Anne married a Navy officer and travelled the world, experiencing many different cultures and countries. After settling in New Zealand, she and her husband adopted two daughters and lovingly welcomed them into their family. Later in life, Anne married again and found a new sense of purpose working at a photography studio, where she developed meaningful friendships and continued to embrace new opportunities.

Today, Anne is a valued member of the CHT Onewa community.

Note from the Care Home Manager

Over the past few months, ongoing improvements have been made across the care home, including the refurbishment of several bathrooms and new curtains in the Sunset Bay Lounge. These updates have created brighter, more welcoming spaces for residents to enjoy.

Another important initiative is the introduction of the DEWS project, a new approach to reviewing residents' needs as they move through different stages of care. It reflects our commitment to continually improving the quality of care and achieving the best possible outcomes for every resident.

As we head into the colder months, a gentle reminder to help keep our community well by staying up to date with vaccinations, practicing good hand hygiene and postponing visits if you're feeling unwell.

Best wishes,

Teresa Jurkiewicz
Care Home Manager
teresa.jurkiewicz@cht.co.nz