

SUMMER 2020



Wharekaka Elder Care Community

This year has been odd, to say the least. Some of our residents' activities ground to a halt during lockdown for obvious reasons. Others, like crafting, reached new heights and some residents have been incredibly productive with the results being sold at fairs.

We were delighted to receive a grandfather clock from Ray Sparks, which now sits proudly in our lounge. Thanks also to Ted & Ray for our new signs made from the old oak tree.

As Christmas approaches, we have a variety of seasonal activities and entertainment planned.

We always enjoy – absolutely love, actually – Rotary Carols which were held in the dining room on 9<sup>th</sup> December.

## *Thank you very much*

The Board extends formal thanks to all donors, particularly those in our local community, for your ongoing generosity.

The South Wairarapa Rotary Club and Martinborough Lions provided laundry equipment and security lights respectively; South Wairarapa District Council (Featherston) & Greytown Community Board contributed to Meals on Wheels. Of course Cotter & Stevens, P&K and Mitre 10 support us in ways too numerous to mention. Also the Macarthy Trust and Martinborough Fair Trust; as well as our awesome Auxiliary of course who all support us in myriad ways. And a special thank you to those who've joined our Oak Tree Community - your contributions are absolutely invaluable.

Thank you all SO very much – we couldn't go on without you!

Our Christmas lunch isn't far away, and this year will include residents from the rest home, the villas, families and some of our other close friends.

Closer to Christmas, St. John's Church (Featherston) will come along and sing for us in the lounge. And Glenys will be holding a Christmas church service for the residents on Christmas Eve.

We'll also welcome back our wonderful Martinborough School children – we love hearing the chatter of young voices.

Thanks to Vicky and Liz for a very enjoyable concert with their students. Also to Anne, Glenis, Trish and Matt (Wednesday bowling), and to Lorna and all our other supporters.

We're looking forward to a settled New Year.



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# Auxiliary back in action

With NZ coming out of lockdown earlier than other countries, the Auxiliary has been able to resume something close to their normal level of activity.

The November meeting could be held at Wharekaka for the first time in several months, and the Auxiliary then shouted the perennial favourite fish and chip lunch for residents.

The Auxiliary participated in two markets recently, which were very worthwhile, raising over \$3,000 between them. Both stalls contained a range of superb home baking, preserves, and knitted items created by residents. The Community Market at Labour Weekend was a two-day affair, and the baking was so popular that more had to be rapidly produced overnight in order to re-stock the stall for the next day!

More recently, the Auxiliary's stall at Te Kairanga market was equally popular, helped by a lovely sunny day. By midday a lot of the baking and preserves had been sold, and residents' knitted teddies were also popular. Huge thanks to everyone involved.



Lesley & Carolyn at the TK Market



Gail and Margaret tucking in to fish & chips

## *Naming of the shed*

Our late, amazing and much-loved handyman Larry will be forever remembered with a plaque, carved from one of our old oak trees, now erected on our handyman's shed.



We were delighted that Larry's family could join us for the naming ceremony. Thanks to Mike and the Martinborough Menzshed.

## *From the Chair*

In light of the very tough year we've had, our Chair, Joy, wanted to say, "On behalf of the Board, I offer our everlasting thanks to all our staff, ably led by Jenny Prentice, who've pulled us through an extraordinary year. We are so incredibly lucky to have such a dedicated and talented team who give more of themselves to their work than we would ever ask.

Also to our remarkable Auxiliary, led by Carolyn Thompson. Thank you all so much for everything you do. Your energy, enthusiasm and infinite thoughtfulness are hugely appreciated by residents, staff, management and Board members.

Thanks also to all our other volunteers who so selflessly give their time to us. We remain very grateful.

Our best wishes to all for an especially Merry Christmas. We look forward to seeing you in 2021.

## *Heather Wall*

We extend our deepest sympathies to Gary Wall on the passing of his wife, Heather.

Heather Wall was a founding member of the Wharekaka Auxiliary in 1972, and was Secretary for many years. She's particularly remembered for her meticulous minutes, written in her beautiful hand-writing in the Auxiliary minute books.

Heather was an extremely caring person with residents and friends alike – she never missed any birthdays or anniversaries. It goes without saying that she was also an exceptional baker, with shortbread and mince pies being her specialities.

We will miss Heather's contributions to Wharekaka in so many ways.