

# Village Times

KERIKERI  
RETIREMENT  
Village

Times

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY SPIRIT

DECEMBER 2024

## Spring Fling

Head Gardener, Debbie Condron, and Mary share a laugh over a 'Wonkiest Vegetable' entry.



Taking a moment to stop and smell the flowers



A great time was had fashioning spring hats

Our 'Spring Fling' was a true reflection of the strong sense of community spirit and pride that exists in the Village. Apartment, cottage and Care Facility residents, their families, and volunteers all joined the fun and games on the Village Green.

Organised by our Head Gardener, Debbie Condron, together with the Potting Shed Group (who also grew all the vegetables for sale), the event included many light-hearted competitions such as 'Wonkiest Vegetable' and 'Best Nature Inspired Poem'.

Various stalls, raffles and refreshments raised \$1,400 for our 'Gift of Comfort' appeal. Thank you for all your generous contributions.

**See full story and photos on the Village Life page of our website.**



John Steere  
- master  
Jenga player



Hilary Sumpter - Chief Executive

## Mere Kirihimete!

*As another year draws to a close, there's a lovely Christmas buzz throughout our Village and the wider Kerikeri community.*

*It's wonderful to be interacting freely and our residents have been getting out and about to all sorts of destinations and events.*

*We're enjoying lots of love and support from our community and the sounds of laughter from the various groups and events we host is fabulous to hear. It's all part of the magic of living in a small town and we're fostering those connections. We think that's especially important at Christmas which can be a sad and lonely time for our elderly.*

*Speaking of connections and community, our Fundraising Manager, Adele Woodward, has a 'Gift for Goldies' campaign running to provide extra care and support for Care Facility residents - see our website for details.*

*Thank you to all our residents, staff, volunteers and our supporters. Wishing you all the best for a safe and happy holiday.*

## A Message FROM THE CHAPLAIN

The lead up to Christmas is called the Advent Season. It's a time for looking forward and during our December services, we will be lighting candles.

Each candle has a special significance. The first is hope for the New Year. We'll light candles for peace for the world, joy in our lives, and love for one another. And on Christmas Day we'll light a candle for Christ.

I wish you all a joyous Christmas and I look forward to seeing you again in the New Year. God bless you all.

Jan Gough - Chaplain

## Remembrance Day

**On November 11<sup>th</sup> we held a Remembrance Day service in the Village chapel. It was a deeply moving tribute to those who have passed away in 2024.**

Residents, staff, and families gathered to reflect on the lives of dear friends and family who are no longer with us.

Candles were lit, names read aloud, and moments of silence were shared in honour of their memory.

The sense of community and love was a comforting reminder of the lasting impact these people had on our lives. Special thanks to our Chaplain, Jan Gough, for the beautiful ceremony.



## Thank You Suzanne!

After exactly 10 years on our Board of Directors, Suzanne Brocx is stepping down. Her ties with the Village go back even further, as her father spent the last 17 months of his life in our Care Facility, and her mother was a volunteer here until she died in 2011.

As a former Registered Nurse, and head of hospice, Suzanne's clinical expertise has been invaluable and has helped to shape the way we care for our residents. She has been Deputy Chair for six years and chaired the Clinical & Quality Sub-committee for a similar time.

Suzanne has given freely of her time and resources and has brought extraordinary support and passion to her service as a Director. All this whilst being a busy dairy farmer with her husband Terence.

On behalf of the board, staff, and residents we would like to say Ngā mihi maioha! - a heartfelt thank you, Suzanne, for your service and commitment to our community.



## Gifts for Goldies GIFTING TO THOSE WHO'VE GIVEN

**We're running a Christmas gift appeal for the wonderful residents in our Care Facility.**

The gifts we've carefully selected represent comfort, joy, and experiences that will truly enrich lives.

Our residents have given so much over the years, and they truly deserve the best. Unfortunately, due to funding shortfalls and budget constraints, we aren't always able to provide these special touches without the help of our incredible community.

As Kerikeri's only not-for-profit aged care retirement facility, we rely on the generosity of supporters like you to help us make the holiday season unforgettable for those in our care.

**If you would like to contribute, please contact [adele@kerikerivillage.co.nz](mailto:adele@kerikerivillage.co.nz) or for more details visit [kerikerivillage.co.nz](http://kerikerivillage.co.nz)**



## Companionship shows true Community Spirit

**Kerikeri High School Students Pippa and Katelyn approached the Village to complete their community service hours as part of achieving their Duke of Edinburgh Hillary Award.**

The award equips rangatahi for promising futures by challenging young people to develop skills and tools to improve themselves and their communities.

With guidance from Award Leaders, participants are encouraged to examine themselves, their interests, and ambitions, and to set challenges for each of the four award sections; one which is Voluntary Service. Pippa planned to serve 26 hours and Katelyn's goal was 13. Both completed their targets months ago, but continue to visit each week.

For both Pippa and Katelyn, spending time with our residents has been a rewarding experience. They've formed genuine connections, sharing stories, playing games, and learning from the rich life experiences of those they visit. Our residents have found comfort and joy in their company, enjoying the vibrant energy and fresh perspectives the girls bring.

The kindness shown by Pippa and Katelyn is an inspiring example of how anyone, at any age, can make a big difference to their community.



**Kate and Pippa with resident Ann**



VILLAGE LIFE





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1-5: 'Wheelies Day' saw our residents, staff, and the children of Kerikeri Kindergarten whizzing around the Village Green on all manner of wheeled contraptions.

6+7: A reciprocal visit to Kerikeri Kindergarten.

8: At the Spring Flower Show.

9: June and Larry of the Rosewood Group entertained

with the rhythmic beats of the cumbud and the lively pulse of the djembe.

10+11: Thanks to the Musical Memory Makers for another wonderful performance.

12-14: Kerikeri High School students helped our residents make handcrafted Christmas Decorations.

15-19: Melbourne Cup is always a great excuse to don a hat and have a wee flutter.

20+21: The Ridge Daycare joined our Care Facility Residents for a sing along and games afternoon.

**For more pictures and information on these and other recent events, see the Village Life page on our website.**



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## Work Ready: Partnering for better opportunities

**Work Ready offers a comprehensive 10-week Health Care Assistant course, specifically designed for individuals pursuing care support roles within elderly care settings.**

This program encompasses a broad range of essential topics, including professional workplace behaviours, coping strategies, interview preparation, first aid, and the attainment of the Level 2 Health and Wellbeing qualification.

A key element of the course is a mandatory 80-hour work placement, providing practical

experience for all participants.

Work Ready partnered with us to provide placement for four students who worked across all areas of the care facility and were partnered with a support buddy.

We gave them a presentation of what to expect in an aged care facility providing rest home, total and dementia care. Hospice

provided further training on palliative care, grief, and loss.

All four on placement went on to secure employment with TLC4U, Phillips Healthcare and ourselves.

We will continue to support Work Ready and their clients to demonstrate aged care at its best.

### FEEDBACK & INSIGHTS

#### 2024 Staff Culture Survey Results

Thank you for taking the time to give us your feedback. Here's a snapshot of what makes KRV great!



Here's the words people used to describe working at KRV



#### OUR VALUES

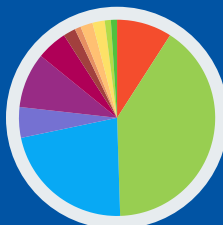
What our values say about us:

KRV people value **honesty, integrity and compassion** above all else. They also hold **whanaungatanga (relationships), respect and fairness** as an important part of who they are and what they expect.



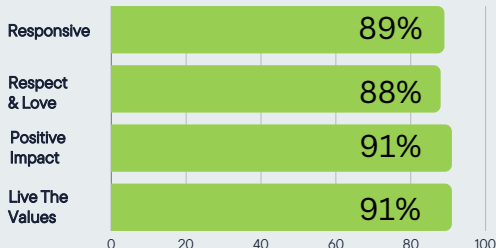
#### MULTI CULTURAL

KRV has a multicultural workforce! This is essential for several reasons, as it brings a variety of perspectives, experiences, and skills that can significantly benefit our residents and our organisation.



- French
- Māori
- British
- Fijian
- NZ European
- Filipino
- Indian
- Tongan
- South African
- South American
- American
- Canadian

#### STRENGTHS



KRV staff are **consistently responsive to the needs of residents**. Providing them with an **abundance of respect, love and inclusion**. All the work and investment in time, money and resource has a **positive impact on the residents**. People view leaders as **regularly living the KRV values** of compassionate caring, whanau, guardianship and continuously improving.

## Community Arts Project

Our craft and knitting group were delighted to be involved in the 'This is Us Here Now / Anei Matou' arts project, a collaborative community initiative that brings people together to repurpose materials to create a stunning textile collage banner.

This banner, made up of contributions from communities across the Bay of Islands, will be proudly displayed at the Turner Centre.

As part of the initiative, one of the project's curators, Teresa Lane led a creative workshop with our residents.

This gave our residents the opportunity to learn more about the project, engage with others in the community, and showcase their talents.



## Mental Health Awareness Week

**Health and wellbeing have always been a strong focus in our workplace so supporting Mental Health Awareness Week aligned perfectly with our values.**

This year's theme was 'community is...what we create together'.

Community looks different for everyone — that's the beauty of it. It's about connecting with others to create something together.

Mental Health Awareness Week ran from September 23 to 27 and there were recommended activities for each day.

On Manaaki Monday we were encouraged to kick off the week

with an act of kindness.

Tautoko Tuesday was about supporting a local business by letting them know how much you appreciate them. We chose to acknowledge catering business Neat Eats who have been long-term supporters of the Village.

The focus for Whānau Wednesday was on reaching out to friend or whānau member you would like to catch up with and so our staff and residents

sent out lots of postcards.

Tūhono Thursday's task was to introduce ourselves to a new kaimahi/employee at mahi and ask what we could do to help them settle in.

And to round out the week, on Whakawhetai Friday we thanked someone in our community. For us it was 'Men's Shed' who do so much for so many.

The week was a simple reminder of how focusing on the positive produces a healthy mindset.

## Cottages and apartments available now!



If you've been waiting, now's your chance. Whether it's a garden cottage close to the shops, or one of the stylish apartments at 127, we can show you through them all so you can see what feels right for you.

It isn't often we have several choices of homes available, so don't put off a viewing. Call me today and I'll show you through each of the options we have available.\*

**Phone Grant Cochran on 09 929 5836. [www.kerikerivillage.co.nz](http://www.kerikerivillage.co.nz)**

*\*Available under an Occupation Right Agreement.*



## “Ahoy Me Hearties”...

International Talk Like a Pirate Day is a parody holiday that invites everyone to talk like a pirate for the day at work, home, and online.

“Shiver me timbers” where better to celebrate than at the Care Facility? “Arrr... and for good measure” why not dress like a pirate?

Our mateys at the Parrot Place provided an authentic touch, arriving with a bounty of colourful parrots.

“Real treasures they be!”



## Supporting Seniors & Their Carers OUR DAY SERVICES PROGRAMME

Our Day Services Program, offered three days a week, is designed to enrich the lives of local seniors while providing much-needed respite for their carers. Open to the entire community, the program is accessible through referrals from your GP and offers a supportive, social environment for elderly participants.

The program aims to foster social connections, provide entertainment, and ensure that seniors engage in meaningful activities that promote well-being. Wednesdays are specially dedicated to seniors living with dementia, with tailored activities that cater to their unique needs, providing both stimulation and comfort in a safe, caring space.

For carers, this program offers a valuable opportunity to take a break, knowing their loved ones are in good hands. Through this initiative, we aim to create a stronger sense of community and support for both seniors and those who care for them.



Visit [www.kerikerivillage.co.nz](http://www.kerikerivillage.co.nz) to sign up for news by email

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