

Village Times

KERIKERI
RETIREMENT
Village

FRIENDS & FAMILY

JUNE 2025



ANZAC DAY

HONOURING FALLEN FRIENDS & FAMILY

ANZAC Day was an opportunity for residents, friends, family, and the wider community to join us for a moving service.

The morning began with a special visit from local cadets, who delivered poppies to each of our residents. The simple act of receiving a poppy was an emotional reminder of the sacrifices made.

In a particularly poignant moment, war veteran and Care Facility resident, Victor Peach swore in a group of new cadets, a tradition that symbolically passes the torch of remembrance and duty to the younger generation. The bond formed between Victor and

the cadets was one of respect, pride, and shared purpose.

Eileen Young, a regular Village volunteer, then led a touching

service about the strength of community and the importance of remembering those who served.





Hilary Sumpter - Chief Executive

FRIENDS & FAMILY

Welcome

Front of mind is the commencement of construction of our new Community Centre. This has been many years in the making, with delays caused by Covid and the increased construction costs requiring a redesign.

Brendan Murray Construction will handle the project. The Whangarei based firm has significant experience building retirement villages, and in particular working on sites that need to remain operational during construction. They are well known for their sensitivity to staff and residents' needs. They will be assisted by a host of local sub-contractors throughout the build which is expected to take around 13 months.

There will inevitably be some inconvenience as we progress but we will do our best to minimise that and to provide as much advance warning as we can. We really appreciate your patience over this time.

Next year sees us celebrating our 40th Anniversary of the Village and the opening of our fabulous new facility will be an appropriate way to mark the occasion. Watch this space for more details as we continue.

There is plenty of other exciting news and we hope you enjoy reading about what we have been up to.

Arohanui, Hilary



Kate Donley

New Board Member

Kate is a Chartered Member of the Institute of Directors, holds a Bachelor of Commerce, and is well known for her success in developing and implementing not-for-profit growth strategies, and securing innovative and collaborative funding streams.

Her approach to work and life in general is inspired by Maya Angelou who said "do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better."

Originally from Auckland, Kate has fond memories of many childhood holidays in Northland. Now married to Rob, who is of Ngāpuhi descent, the couple has deep connections to the area and split their time between their farm in Waipu and Auckland.

Kate loves nothing better than getting outdoors and has joined Waipu West Kiwi to improve pest control locally and has taken up long distance walking in preparation for walking The Camino.

Meet our new Clinical Team Managers

Anne James, our new Clinical Nurse Manager, is responsible for the leadership and management of the Village's Clinical Team and Care Facility.

Anne is a Registered Nurse with a Bachelor of Nursing degree and a post-graduate Certificate in Mental Health. She also holds a Bachelor of Education degree and was a primary school teacher for 20 years before moving into the field of educational software.

Anne is supported by Assistant Clinical Manager Joolz Dones who helps to oversee the care of our residents and manage staffing levels to meet their needs.

Joolz is also a Registered Nurse with a Bachelor of Nursing degree. She brings 16 years of nursing experience to the role and has worked as a Public Health Nurse and as a District Nurse.

Anne (left) and Joolz (right)





The Brewers - Family & Friends

There's an old saying that "friends are the family you choose." We are extremely fortunate that the Brewer family has chosen to become friends and extended family to all who live and work here at the Village.

Geran who is our Maintenance Supervisor, started here at the Village over 15 years ago. Like so many of our wonderful team, he would often bring his family to help with events.

His wife Judi enjoyed the culture so much that 11 years ago she joined the village as a Diversional Therapist and has since moved into a Healthcare Assistant role within Village Support.

With mum and dad both working here, the Brewer children visited so often that they came to think of the Village as their second home and began keeping our

residents company and helping with small chores.

Their eldest daughter Hannah continues to visit and now brings her own children to events.

Younger sister Annie, who is nearly eighteen, has just begun here as a Healthcare Assistant while 16-year-old Finn has been working part time with us for two years.

We are truly blessed to have the Brewer family join ours, and we thank them for their continued commitment, generosity, and love.



Welcome to...



Ian Hughes &
Eva Fribrant



John &
Pauline Halse



Caryll King



Joy Emirali



Thomas

We also welcome Annie Baxter and Trudy Thornton (who wasn't free but her flatmate Thomas was happy to pose for a photo).

Murals for Tui - A COLOURFUL GIFT OF CARE

We are thrilled to share the completion of our 'Murals for Tui,' a heartfelt initiative that was part of our Gifts for Goldies campaign.

Thanks to very generous donations from the community, and by long-serving board member Suzanne Brocx and her whanau, we were able to transform the once bare walls of Tui with some vibrant art.

Local artist Erika Pearce brought our vision to life, creating a series of uplifting murals. But the results are more than just beautiful paintings, they are a form of therapy, as visual stimulation through art has been proven to evoke memory, reduce anxiety, and enhance overall wellbeing, especially for those living with dementia.

We are deeply grateful to all who made this possible. Your support continues to make a real difference.



To contribute to other meaningful projects, go to:
www.kerikerivillage.co.nz/donations/gifts-for-goldies

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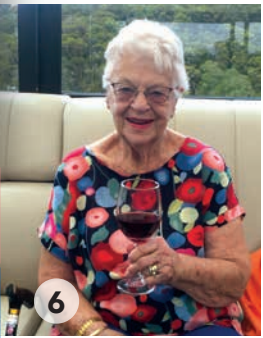
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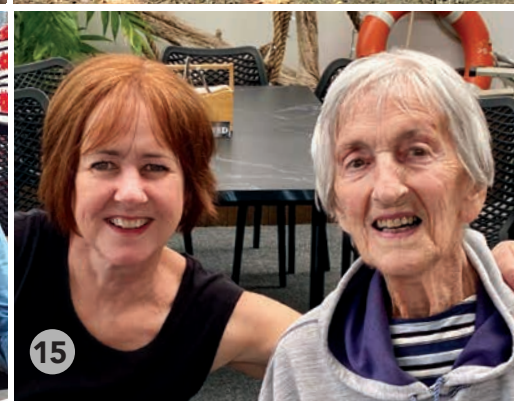
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- 1: Hunter McKinnis has us kicking up our heels
- 2-3: Lunch at picturesque Omata Estate
- 4-5: Breast Cancer Fundraiser held at 127
- 6-10: Oakridge residents joined us for a boat cruise
- 11: A great turnout for a staff Indian banquet
- 12-15: A fun afternoon in Whangaroa

VILLAGE ROUND UP



Passion Leads Volunteer to Join Our Team

After starting at the Village as a casual Diversional Therapist, Lydia suggested that her mother Callie might like to visit her at work.

Callie was so taken with the people and the wonderful atmosphere in the Care Facility that she began volunteering on a regular basis.

"The staff were all so positive and friendly and they really care about the residents they look after. I was blown away by how cheerful, polite, and grateful the residents are for your help and companionship as a volunteer."

Callie had been giving her time for over a year when she saw the role of part-time Volunteer Coordinator advertised. She applied and was thrilled to

accept the position in February of this year.

"I am loving my new job; it's a privilege to look after the wonderful volunteers at the Village who give up their time to bring comfort and happiness to the residents. Every person I meet in the Care Facility has a smile and a friendly hello. It is such a wonderful community to be part of."

So, you never know what might come from friends and family and an open mind. Callie's journey truly embodies one of the cornerstones of the Village: 'We are family / whānau.'



Callie (on left) with Jess, who heads up the Diversional Therapy Team

Celebrating Citrus

Just when the garden seems quiet and the world is wrapped in a wintery hush, nature surprises us with a burst of sunshine, right in our fruit bowls.

Yes, it's citrus season. From zesty lemons to juicy mandarins, winter is when these beauties truly shine. And if you're a gardener, or just a citrus enthusiast, this is your moment to peel, sip, zest, and smile.

While many fruits hibernate until spring, citrus steps up when it is needed most. Cold hardy and sun loving, citrus trees produce their sweet tangy treasures during cooler months, and they are also packed with vitamin C, just what we need to keep the sniffles at bay.

So, what do you do with all that fruit? How about a whipping up a lemon/orange meringue pie?

Or make some jars of lemon/orange honey, marmalades, biscuits, or cakes, to share with your friends and family.

For some tasty citrus recipe ideas go to www.kerikerivillage.co.nz/news-events/latest-news



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Family Connections

Tui resident Eva (Ngati Kura) moved to the Village from Hamilton to be closer to family and friends.

The move has meant that her daughter Emma can spend more time with her mum and every Sunday afternoon she entertains Tui residents and their families with her singing.

"I know how much music means to the residents. I try to pick songs that they know, so the songs have meaning for them, and they can sing along with me. Whether they are singing, tapping their hands to the rhythm, or just wandering in and out enjoying the music, it's lovely

to see them responding."

The sense of family within the Tui community is evident. So much so that Emma was asked to join in the birthday celebrations for Maera, another Tui resident (of Ngati Rehia descent).

It later turned out that Eva and Maera knew each other in their earlier years in Te Tii when both loved a party – especially if music was involved.

Emma loves the family connections and giving back to her community.



Emma and Eva

Family Lunch

Residents of the Care Facility, together with their families and friends, enjoyed a delicious lunch at the Plough & Feather.

As laughter echoed and glasses clinked, it was a chance for our residents to reconnect with family and each other outside of their usual routine. It was also a great opportunity for their respective families to introduce themselves.

Everyone enjoyed coming together as a community.



A Familiar Face

At the heart of every great community are people who go above and beyond not just in their work, but in how they care for those around them. Introducing Lorraine Jobbitt our very own First Responder.

Lorraine, an Administrator here at the Village, recently graduated St Johns and has a Level 3 NZ Certificate in Emergency Care (First Responder) and a Diploma in Ambulance Driving.

As a casual Patient Transfer Officer, Lorraine has attended call outs to the Care Facility to aid a resident and transfer them to hospital. She says it is a privilege to be a familiar face and to comfort to our residents in their time of need.

Lorraine's story is a beautiful reminder of the family bonds we build in our workplace.





Matua Kipa Munro, Ngati Rehia, blesses the site



Construction underway of our New Community Centre

Karakia, waiata, laughter and camaraderie marked the blessing of our much-needed new Community Centre.

Construction of the 1,000 square metre facility, which sits adjacent to the administration block and features a café, bar, and outdoor seating area, has begun.

It replaces the existing Social Centre which has long since done its dash and frees up that that space to expand the Care Facility to help us meet increased demand from the community.

In addition to better meeting the needs of our residents, it's hoped that the Community Centre will become an asset for the wider Kerikeri area as a potential venue for events, functions, and activities.

It's intended to be a focal point for the wider Kerikeri community and is our way of including our community in Village life, as we support one another

We look forward to sharing building progress in our next newsletter.

Happy 107th Birthday Una!

Cherished Care Facility resident, Una remains 'fit as a fiddle' and continues to inspire with her zest for life.

She attributes her remarkable longevity to lots of walking and in younger years was often found strolling along the beaches, enjoying the fresh air.

Una still loves getting out and about and is always keen for a bus trip or a visit to a café.

She always keen to get involved with crafts, games, or musical events where she's known to get up for a little boogie.

But her favourite moments are those spent in good company, ideally with a good cup of tea.

Here's to a remarkable woman who continues to remind us that joy can be found in movement, music, and moments together.



Una with Healthcare Assistants Hannah (on left) and Bron

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