

# Village Times

KERIKERI  
RETIREMENT  
Village

JUNE 2012 | ISSUE 8



Betty Petrie - Village Manager

On the 20th April Volunteer Coordinator Jan Gough and I blew out a lot of candles at a special afternoon tea to celebrate 21 years since the opening of the care facility at the Kerikeri Retirement Village.

Jan and I have both been at the facility since it opened in 1991 and we are very proud to still be here 21 years later. We all enjoyed the cake and sharing stories of the early years.

## Welcome... TO OUR NEWSLETTER

Since that time the care facility has doubled in size and I am pleased to announce that we are expanding our service again in 2012.

In response to growing need in the community for more care options that are locally based, we are specifically increasing the number of beds for persons with dementia as well as an extra bed or two in the rest home.

Planning for this development is well advanced and shortly we'll begin our fundraising to ensure we can provide the best possible environment for our residents.

Fundraising activities will include special fun events and an opportunity to sponsor room fit outs, or donations for specific equipment.

If you would like to help us with this community project you can donate online at <http://kerikerivillage.co.nz/donations-online> or come and see me in person and let me know how you'd like to help.

Thanks to the generous support of Kerikeri New World we have been able to start our 'Mister Chef' cooking classes for retired gentlemen. Chef Neil Brazier, of Pear Tree fame, is holding classes once a week. Catch some of the action on our website.



Some of the 'New World Mister Chef' team in action.  
From left to right Pete Roffey, John Horrell & Dave Hazelden



Betty Petrie and Jan Gough  
celebrate 21 years at the village.

## Out visit to Ngawha Geothermal Power Station

A group of our Village residents arrived at Ngawha Geothermal Power Station expecting strong smells and wisps of steam all around but the station was surrounded by pine plantation and you could only just catch a whiff of sulphur here and there.



Our guides explained that the hot water was piped to the plants via wells 100m beneath our feet and restored to the ground via more wells at the other end of the field.

In the control room we heard how the power is generated and what it's like managing a natural resource.

The station contributes per annum 25 megawatts of power to the national grid, (70% of energy consumed in the Far North), yet gives off only 10% of the emissions of a coal fired station.

The newer of the two plants is less noisy at 20 metres than your average dishwasher! Most of the noise we heard is the cooling fans and the actual generator is quite small.

The process involves the conversion of geothermal liquid to Pentane Gas which in turn spins the turbines. The Pentane gas is recycled and the geothermal liquid is re-injected. Resource Consents around geothermal use are strict to protect the resource and the environment.

A rare species of mudfish found in the nearby ponds and various plant species are also carefully monitored. We were impressed at how the industry has such a small impact on the environment.

It seemed a very friendly place to work too judging by the joking between our guides. If you'd like to see the plant for yourself, tours can be arranged with Top Energy.



## Maureen Clare

Volunteer Maureen Clare, who has been with us for the whole of our 21 years, has decided to retire her tea cosy.

Maureen has been a faithful volunteer, coming in each week for all that time to serve morning tea to the residents with a friendly smile and a lovely chat.

She has befriended so many residents and staff over the years that she is truly one of the family. Modest as Maureen is, she thought she might just have a quiet last day and slip out unnoticed.

Of course, we weren't going to let that happen, so we held a special morning tea in her honour and let someone else pour her a cup of tea



for a change. We were thrilled to be able to express our sincere thanks to Maureen and present a certificate of appreciation for all her loyal years of unselfish service to others.

We have calculated that Maureen must have poured in excess of 27,000. cuppas in her time with us!

## Robyn Rihari RN -10 years of Service

We really have been notching up the milestones as we recently awarded a certificate in recognition of 10 years loyal service by Registered Nurse Robyn Rihari.

Some of you may not recognise Robyn, despite the fact that she is here nearly every day of the week. Robyn is one of our lovely Night RN's. Working Night Shift gives Robyn the freedom to spend some quality time with her family when they are up and around and helps us provide high quality of care 24 hours a day.

Robyn has contributed a lot of her knowledge and expertise to our organisation over the years, and for some time was also responsible for staff training and quality improvement in the workplace. She is known for her happy smile and willingness to go the extra mile for the residents and staff alike.



## Welcome to ...



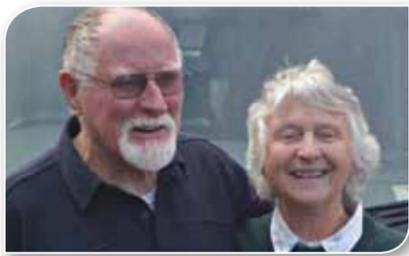
Jim & Margaret Baird



John & Evelyn Lewis



Ken Alderton & Enid Briggs



Ron & Margaret Lonie



Betty Rood



Roger Witheford

## Firehouse Museum Trip

Local Okaihau residents, Brian and Lesley Denton, have turned what started as a hobby collecting fire engine models, into an impressive display of fire fighting memorabilia.

The first sight that greeted our group of residents was a row of fire trucks, all from different eras. Older trucks were open with benches at the back for the crew and very basic equipment. Some trucks are still operational and have participated in conventions, parades, and even weddings!

Much more lay inside; models, uniforms, equipment, badges and international displays including a poignant memorial of the 9/11 world trade centre bombing in which many fire fighters lost their lives and also the 1968 Buckingham department store fire in Sydney. All in all a reminder of the hazards of fire but also a celebration of the brave men and women, often volunteers, who risk their lives to save others.

Afterwards we sampled the delicious homemade pies at the Village Cafe in Okaihau. A visit to the



Mary and Sandy by a vintage fire truck

Okaihau Firehouse Museum comes highly recommended.

## Remember when ...

Brian Worthington recalls life in the Merchant Navy in the 1940s.

Sixteen year old Brian Worthington's career as a Merchant Seaman almost ended before it began on the day he boarded his first ship 'The Otaio' in London's Victoria Docks, in the midst of a German bombing raid.

The new cadets' first task was kicking fire bombs off the deck. Fortunately the ship survived, but more danger awaited them in the Atlantic on the first trip to Edinburgh in the form of German Focker planes and U boats.

Mounted on the aft deck was a 4 inch gun manned by two Royal Navy men. The captain had a .303 rifle. To make up for this lack of firepower the captain had the ships carpenter create mock guns using canvas gun mountings and broom sticks.

It was with a mixture of cunning and luck that the ship made it to Edinburgh in one piece, and so doing, launched Brian into more adventures on the high seas.

The ship journeyed on to New York, taking a zig-zag course, again avoiding disaster, although there were close calls and sinkings among other ships in the area.

Up ahead, Nantucket lightship came into view with New York just over the horizon. The crew stayed for 6 weeks while the ship was patched up and de-gauged or made magnetic to repel mines. Brian and his shipmates explored Manhattan and found their way to the Merchant Seaman's club, (16 year olds could drink legally). Duke Ellington was often to be seen in the bar and some locals would call "give us a tune Duke!" He always obliged.

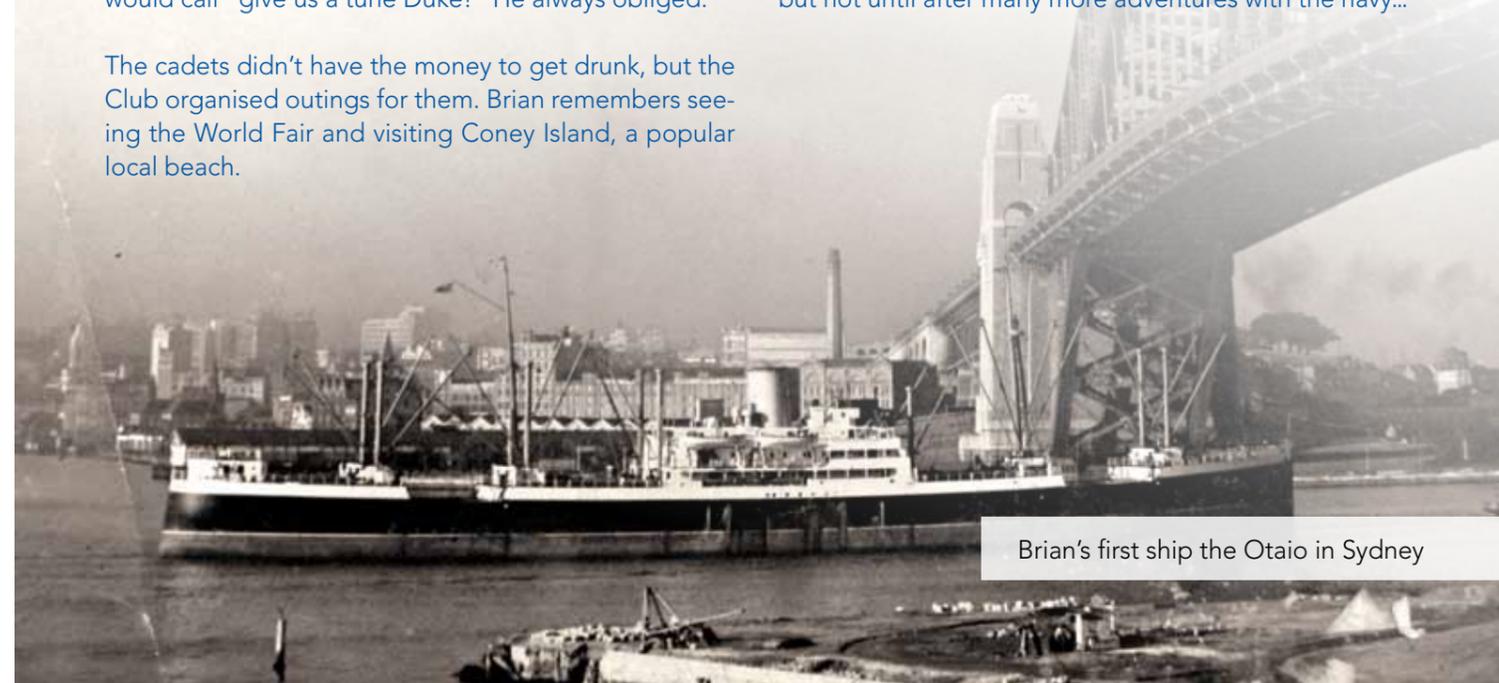
The cadets didn't have the money to get drunk, but the Club organised outings for them. Brian remembers seeing the World Fair and visiting Coney Island, a popular local beach.

Brian's next course, after picking up cargo in Baltimore, took him through the Panama canal en route over the then relatively untroubled Pacific to Australia and New Zealand. The New Zealand ports were pretty quiet what with 6pm closing. The cadets tried a couple of dance halls in Auckland and Wellington but no one was dancing. Girls on one side, boys on the other!

After some further journeys, Brian took some time out in England, only to hear that his ship had been sunk mid Atlantic. He had been lucky again.

Now with the 'Sussex' he visited Gibraltar, Algiers and Singapore, where they were chased out by Japanese bombers. They fled to Perth and then back to England, riding out a hurricane on the way (the sea was as high as the mast tops), and torpedo shots from U boats.

More journeys on more ships followed, often under fire. Cargo could vary from lamb to drums of formaldehyde to 10,000 tonnes of explosives! Brian obtained his 2nd Mates ticket and then joined the Royal Navy as a Sub-lieutenant. Just days before he shipped out he met his Betty, in his words, "a really lovely girl. Her photo was to be at sea with me all the time" later they were to marry, but not until after many more adventures with the navy...



Brian's first ship the Otaio in Sydney



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## Cottages available now!

We have three cottages available at present and they are all a good size. **Please call Frances Shaw if you would like to take a look on 09 407 0136.**

There are no Wendywood Apartments available at the moment but you can view occupied units by appointment.

**TO VIEW call Frances**



**on 09 407 0136**

### Cottage 52 - Wendywood Lane

Spacious two bedroom house with large sunny lounge and kitchen, one large bathroom and second toilet, internal garage and patio.



### Cottage 53 - Stella Drive

Large two bedroom, two bathroom house with own garden. Large kitchen/dining area with parquet style floor. Extra room for office. Carport. Newly painted, will have new carpet and drapes throughout.



### Cottage 18 - The Close

Two bedroom house, (one double and one single), with a good size lounge, modern bathroom and second toilet. Internal garage and attractive patio and garden areas. Available for occupation now.



## Improving Life with Diversional Therapy

Diversional Therapy involves the design, coordination and implementation of leisure based activities to improve our residents' emotional, social and physical needs. Every activity is designed to help our residents:

- Maintain their use of visual and hand skills
- Participate in creative activities with a worthwhile outcome
- Give purpose and meaning to life through activity and involvement
- Encourage communication, expression and socialisation
- provide an opportunity to reminisce
- Enhance memory and improve orientation

Activities are tailored to the particular needs of each individual or group to ensure maximum enjoyment and fulfilment.

## Meet our Diversional Therapists

### SUE ROBERTSON



My childhood was spent in and around the south west suburbs of London. My parents, were part of the local church and scouting communities and that's probably what inspired me into a caring profession.

I trained at the Derby Occupational Therapy School in the UK. From 1976 I worked as an Occupational Therapist (OT), in mental health with both children and older people. Like my parents I also volunteered as an Akela in the local Cub Scouts.

### CHRISTINE BILLINGS



I moved from Whangarei to Kerikeri in January 2010 as I have a special connection to this area. My great grandparents settled in Okaihau 144 Years ago and my Great Aunty was a resident here in the Kerikeri rest home.

It was visiting her and seeing how happy she was living here that made me apply for a job in the village. I work as both a Diversional

Therapist and also as a Caregiver in the Care Facility.

I really admire the older generation and I often think how each of them has been shaped by life. They have

In 2004, together with my husband and son, I emigrated to NZ. For a time, I worked in Thames as a Community Occupational Therapist before moving to Kerikeri, where I took an OT position at the Village. I'm also a Diversional Therapist and one of the things I really enjoy is brainstorming ideas for activities with my husband. The internet is also helpful for sourcing ideas for fun and stimulating activities.

My husband and I came to NZ so that we could have some land and develop our passion for gardening. We have exhibited in the Kerikeri Garden Safari and are part of the Kerikeri Garden Club where we enjoy organising holidays for the club across NZ to see other gardens.

a wealth of knowledge and I have learnt so much from them. It's truly rewarding to see them happy and enjoying the activities. Recently, when we were making paper flowers, Joyce Paton told me how she used to make brooches moulded out of white bread.

Other things I love about my job are meeting new people and dressing up on theme days. One day I dressed in a wedding gown and walked through the home. The residents asked me where the bridegroom was and I said, "he hasn't come yet" ... and he never did!

Outside of work I have four budgies - Kay, Silvie, Snowey and Joey and one day I hope to breed budgies. I also enjoy cooking, gardening, walking and visiting family and friends.

## Useful Skills

After seeing an article on Rowena Jones Scrapbooking Shop in the local paper, Diversional Therapist Sue Robertson contacted her about sharing her skill with our village residents.

Rowena agreed to provide free lessons on the art of making cards and everyone, enjoyed it so much Rowena is teaching here on a regular basis.

Her shop is located at 3 Homestead Rd and we recommend calling in to see the great range of scrapbooking materials she stocks or you can ring her on 407 6741



We have a woodwork session each fortnight for our residents who enjoy this activity with our volunteers. With the help of John Walst, our woodwork volunteer, they have made racing cars, letter racks, pot stands, chopping boards, wooden stacking blocks, and wooden blocks to make into jigsaw puzzles.

Our latest project was making furniture for a dolls house. John made the dolls house and some furniture. The residents assisted by cutting boards for chairs and tables, sanding and painting.

The house is now completed with four furnished rooms – and we expect it will make some little girls very happy.



## Margaret (McGuinness) Kingston



As a teenager, I thought the Wellington Railway Station at rush hour was the most exciting experience - all those people and that vast domed glass ceiling!

At 19, my two younger brothers and I sailed to join our parents in Salisbury, S. Rhodesia. That voyage took a month from Wellington to Cape-town and I never got my sealegs. The overnight train to Salisbury was also an eye opener.

I later embarked on a working holiday in England. There wasn't much of holiday, but I did get to Italy where I had a boyfriend I'd met during the La Scala Season and to Switzerland to meet a Scottish cousin.

To save enough money to come home, I sailed via Canada but ended up spending seven winters in Toronto: hence my aversion to snow except on calendars or distant mountains.

Back in Auckland, I was eventually rescued from spinsterhood by my lovely Stewart Kingston, and we came North just 20 years ago.

These days, I have a mini Chambourcin vineyard to challenge my time in the garden and I make my own wine in the garage. I'm also on the board at the Retirement Village and love being involved in the community.



Private Bag 1002  
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21 Hobson Avenue  
Fax 09 407 7089  
law@mcleods.co.nz  
www.mcleods.co.nz

**Free half hour consultation to Village residents on Wills & Powers of Attorney**  
**Phone 09 407 0170**

## Wild Spirit Fashion Show

Laurelle and Michelle from 'Wild Spirt' Kerikeri put on a fantastic show.

It was so much fun we're planning a Spring Fashion Show on the 19th of September at 2.30pm in our Social Centre, come along and enjoy some fantastic fashion.



## Labelling

The laundry for our Care facility residents is done at Kerikeri Laundry Services in Hobson Ave Kerikeri.

It's a huge task to keep track of everyone's clothes so it's important that every garment is correctly labelled with both the resident's first and last names.

You'd be surprised how many people share the same initials or even the same surname!

We've noticed lately that some residents clothes are not adequately labelled, especially recently purchased items.

Laundry marker pen lasts only a few washes and the iron on labels simply don't stand up to multiple washes so we prefer that all labels are of the sew on variety.

**These can be ordered from Name It on 0800 Name It (0800 626 348) or online at [www.NameIt.co.nz](http://www.NameIt.co.nz).**

If you don't like to sew or don't have time we can take care of it for \$1 per label (inc GST) plus the cost of labels. Contact Reception for details.



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[www.laserelectrical.co.nz](http://www.laserelectrical.co.nz)

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## Thanks To...

The soothing sound of running water has been missing from the Laura Whittingham Memorial Garden at the social centre for quite some time.

The fountain was in dire need of repair and every time we thought we'd saved enough to undertake the repairs, something more urgent came along.

Thanks to the generosity of cottage resident Mrs Val Driver, the fountain is bubbling once more.

## Cooking up a Treat!

While Neil Brazier is teaching the men how to cook 'One Pot Wonders', Volunteer Dawn Cheeseman is helping the ladies in the Care Facility keep their hand in with their baking skills.



Gwen Green & Dawn Cheeseman



Zara Miller



Ginny Hill

## Diary Dates

### Movie Afternoon

July 11<sup>th</sup> | 2.30pm  
At the Social Centre

### Cinema Lunch Trip

July 17<sup>th</sup> | 12.15pm-3pm  
Cottage / Wendywood,  
Café Cinema

### Afternoon Tea

July 4<sup>th</sup> | 2.30pm  
Wendywood Afternoon Tea,  
Wendywood Lounge

## Coming Soon ...

### Mid Winter Dinner

Cottage / Wendywood,  
date to be advised

### Wine and Cheese

Cottage outing,  
date to be advised