

## KIA ORA,

Welcome to the January edition of HBH Happenings.

Belated Happy New Year (and Chinese New Year) to all our Residents, Families, Whānau, and Volunteers. December was a busy month for our HBH Community (as I'm sure it was for many of you), filled with festive events and capped off by our traditional Resident Christmas lunches and entertainment. Santa and his elves joined us, handing out presents from our Gifts that Care campaign and sharing holiday cheer.

We've enjoyed warm summer days in Auckland, it's been lovely to see residents, staff, and families spending quality time outdoors. This edition of Happenings highlights some of these wonderful interactions with picnics under the trees, barbecues in the courtyards, and sharing an ice-cream treats while dipping our feet in the water.

Our Gifts that Care campaign in December was central to our mission of helping older adults age well and live fully. Thank you to everyone who supported this effort.

Thank you for being part of our community. Wishing you a safe, healthy, and blessed year ahead. May this lovely weather continue.

## NGA MIHI NUI,



**Juliette Tuckey**  
HBH CEO

## Thank you for supporting our 'Gifts that care' Appeal!



*Kylie and a Stevenson Village resident on receiving their gift - their happy smiles say it all!*



*Santa and his elves rose to the occasion, delivering gifts to all of our delighted residents!*



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**Thank you to everyone** who supported our inaugural Gifts that Care Appeal this Christmas – we were overwhelmed by the generosity of our HBH community!

The donations we received for the gifts meant we could bring Christmas joy to residents living in both our Care Homes and Stevenson Village.

The smiles in the photos say it all - your support made this season truly special. Thank you for helping us create these joyful moments.

If the Christmas rush kept you from donating, there's still time to make a meaningful gift!

Your generosity means the world to us, and as a charity that depends on community

support, every contribution helps bring joy and comfort to our residents.

Many of our gifts have been carefully chosen to spread joy throughout the year, including:

**The gift of companionship** – give a care pack for HBH's pets, so our residents enjoy comfort, connection and cuddles.

**A gift that grows** – a community garden to provide Stevenson Village residents with fresh, healthy produce all year round.

*You can browse our gift catalogue here:*





# OUR MISSION

Guided by purpose, not profit, we aim to create opportunities for all older people to age well and live fully, through **HOMES, CARE, COMMUNITY AND ADVOCACY.**

## HOWICK VIEWS APARTMENTS & STEVENSON VILLAGE



1-4: Apartment residents gather for a festive Christmas Dinner prepared by the Howick Views Apartments team



5: Maree joining the Weekly Happy Hour in the Apartments

6: Lucy helping wrap the gifts for Stevenson Village residents.

7-9: Inchinnan and Minerva residents enjoying the sunshine and the candied fruits they made together



## HOWICK VIEWS & GULF VIEWS



10: Celest and Bob sharing a dance during Happy Hour

11: Corajeau judging cupcake designs at the Staff Christmas Bake-Off

12: Berwick residents cooling off by dipping their feet in the kiddie pool on a hot summer day

13: Gulf Views residents practicing their ring toss skills



14-16: Gulf Views Christmas celebration, featuring Santa handing out gifts and presenting a certificate of achievement to one of the residents

17-18: Our Virtual Village members recently visited Crystal Mountain with Whitney, our new VVE Coordinator. We also want to thank Ninwa, who supported VVE for nearly three years, and wish her the very best for the future.





In line with our mission to advocate for older people, we're excited to resume our monthly Relatively Speaking speaker series. Our first session is on **Monday, 10 February at 7:00 PM at Howick Views**, featuring **Sally Hopkins, Director of Eden OZ/NZ**. She will speak on the Eden Alternative, focusing on impact of loneliness and social isolation.

Please RSVP by emailing [jeanne.atiwag@hbh.org.nz](mailto:jeanne.atiwag@hbh.org.nz). We look forward to seeing you there.



## Colin's story: "How lucky am I to be living in such a wonderful place!"

When Colin needed to find rental accommodation in his late 70s, he was worried. Now, he counts himself lucky to have landed on his feet at Stevenson Village.

Colin moved into Stevenson Village years ago. He had rented a unit for many years while he was working, and more recently, had moved into a granny flat owned by his brother. However, when his brother remarried at 80 years old, Colin needed to find other accommodation.

As a caregiver for a local residential care home, Colin often worked long shifts because the people he looked after required 24-hour care. "It was demanding work and while it didn't pay well, I loved the job," he says. On the downside, it was very physical work, and Colin was starting to find it a bit tough. During Covid he had time to reflect and decided it was time to retire.

"I was 74 years old at that stage and because renting wasn't a problem while I was working I hadn't given my situation much thought until then." However, as Colin soon found out, finding affordable rental accommodation once you've retired is a different proposition altogether.

"Stevenson Village was suggested by a couple of friends, so I decided to look into it," he recalls. "I contacted HBH, knowing the demand for Stevenson Village's low-cost accommodation was high so I wasn't expecting to get in. "To my surprise, just a couple of months later, I received a call to say a unit had become available. I was over the moon!"

From then on, things went from good to great for Colin. "My sister joined me to meet Kylie at Stevenson Village. As we waited at the top of the road, I pointed to a lovely sunlit unit and said to my sister 'imagine if it was that one'. It turned out it was, and I was even more delighted when we went inside and saw that it had been recently painted and carpeted. It looked so fresh, and I knew it was all going to work out well."



**"I live in a community of people who care"**

Colin says he has never been happier. He loves living in a lively community with people who are all in the same boat. "We're all around the same age and in a similar situation, which is lovely. We live in a society that is so fragmented now, but here, it's like the old neighbourhoods I grew up in."

The community centre regularly brings residents together and Colin says there's always someone to chat "We don't live in each other's pockets, but we really look out for one another and that's one of the best things about living here," says Colin.

Another great benefit is that Colin no longer needs to worry about money as much, as the rent is set to be affordable. "It's such a relief, and if I'm careful, I even have a bit left over each month," he says.

Colin also praises the staff at HBH, who manage Stevenson Village. "They are incredibly supportive, and I'm surrounded by a community of people who care. My life has got much better – I was worried I'd be lonely and neglected, but I'm very happy here. I feel so fortunate that charitable organisations like HBH exist and provide affordable rental accommodation for seniors. How lucky am I to be living in such a wonderful place!"





We appreciate the students from St Kents who volunteer after school nearly every day. Their kindness reflects Eden Principles 2 and 3, creating a warm, resident-centered environment and providing genuine companionship. Last December, the students, their families, and Barbara spent time preparing meals, especially for residents in palliative care and their families, as well as for our staff. Their thoughtfulness made a real difference during a challenging time, and we value their ongoing support.



## Important Reminders

We welcome all visitors and want everyone to feel at ease. To help us care for every resident, please:

- Sign in at the kiosk when you arrive
- Check in with the Registered Nurse before visiting
- Let us know the resident's name and your connection
- If you're feeling unwell, please wait until you're better

Thank you for understanding and helping us create a warm, secure environment for all. Feel free to share this with friends and family who plan to visit.

## Upcoming Events

- 25 Jan: Chinese New Year
- 27 Jan: Auckland Anniversary Day
- 04 Feb: World Cancer Day
- 06 Feb: Waitangi Day
- 10 Feb: Relatively Speaking
- 14 Feb: Valentines Day

### **MĀ TE WHAKARONGO, KA MŌHIO**

*THROUGH LISTENING, COMES KNOWLEDGE*

### **MĀ TE MŌHIO, KA MĀRAMA,**

*THROUGH KNOWLEDGE, COMES UNDERSTANDING*

### **MĀ TE MĀRAMA, KA MATAU,**

*THROUGH UNDERSTANDING, COMES WISDOM*

### **MĀ TE MATAU, KA ORA**

*THROUGH WISDOM, COMES WELLBEING*



Heavenly Father,

We thank You for this new month and the blessings of community. We pray for each resident, staff member, and family as we care for one another. We remember those who have passed on, and ask You to comfort their loved ones and friends who miss them. Strengthen us in our daily work, guide us in kindness, and grant us peace in every step. May Your love surround us and bring hope in all we do.

Amen.