

Hospice News

February 2018

Otago Community Hospice Newsletter

CEO Message

Happy New Year to you all. It's hard to believe we are in 2018, and already in February.

Our team are starting to work towards Hospice Awareness Week which falls on May 13 – 18 this year, and we will have a full contingent of Freemasons and volunteers out on the street collecting for Hospice.

This is a crucial time of year for us as the financial year draws to an end, and with our ever-increasing patient needs our fundraising continues to be a crucial part of the mix to provide sustainability to our service.

The Hospice's services are maturing, and we continue delivering excellent patient care across our very large footprint.

We have experienced a huge increase in demand for our services and amazingly a corresponding increase in the level of support from our community. In the last year we received 515 referrals, we have more than 210 patients at any given time on our service, and we now employ 100 staff. Our fundraising target corresponds with this growth and now sits at \$2.4 million for this year.

These increases reflect a greater awareness of our services across the community and an appreciation of the difference excellent hospice care can make for people and their families facing a terminal illness.

The increase has been particularly noticeable in the rural settings. In 2007 there was no hospice palliative care service apart from in Dunedin. The last 10 years has seen the growth of dynamic community-based care teams located in Cromwell, Balclutha and Oamaru. There are currently around 70 patients and families receiving Hospice services in our rural settings.

Our strategy means we are putting more resources into our outlying areas to ensure the equity of care across our region.

In this newsletter you will read about the range of fantastic fundraising that has seen us develop our service provision.

It's quite overwhelming to see the diversity, commitment and goodwill that bubbles up from our community of fundraisers, without which we simply would not be able to deliver the holistic service we pride ourselves on.

Thank you for playing a role in that support.

I wish you all a happy 2018.

Ginny



Young Chef creates Alphabet Cookbook for Hospice

Age is no barrier when it comes to fundraising for the Hospice. Last November, nine-year-old Noah Wilson and his mother Andrea Reid-Wilson arrived for a visit at the Hospice, with an armful of Noah's recently self-published Alphabet Cookbooks.

He spent the previous year testing the 26 alphabetical dishes in the book – from Apricot Fool to Zucchini and Chorizo Pasta.

Noah says the project started as part of the curriculum at George Street Normal School, where students have to do a strength and challenge goal every year.

"I thought about the foods I like to eat and married them up to a letter of the alphabet. I got some help from my family with the more difficult letters. The first recipe I chose was the Beetroot Salad, however my favourite recipe is the Peanut Butter Chocolate Brownie.

I am going to share the proceeds with the Hospice. Because my Granddad was helped by them. I think it's a nice way for them to know that my Mum really appreciated their help."

Noah has already sold over 80 books, and has just 20 left to sell! So if you'd like one, get in quick by emailing becs.wilson@otagohospice.co.nz



Tessa Scott, Noah Wilson and Becc Wilson

otago
community
hospice
Living Every Moment

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Kowhai programme

One of our initiatives, the Kowhai Programme, has grown hugely this year. This programme makes a real difference to patients, families and caregivers – providing excellent educational resources and support to those caring for someone with a terminal illness. The Kowhai Programme focuses on the practical skills carers need to know, such as medication management; nutrition; helping your family member move safely in the home; navigating the medical, hospice and community healthcare systems; and what to expect in general. We also ensure that carers are encouraged and shown ways to care for themselves.

In 2014 the average attendance at our Kowhai sessions was four people, and now we have an average of 14 people at each session. We are now working towards developing our Kowhai Programme web content, so those who are further afield or too sick to attend can find everything they need on-line.

Hospice Shops upping the ante

This year the Hospice shops are once again a crucial part of our fundraising strategy - being major contributors to the \$2.4 million we have to raise this year.

The Otago Community Hospice has seven shops which are treasure troves brimming with clothing and housewares, donated from our generous community.

Each of our shops has a distinct character, with our clever shop managers all expert curators. This year, we have moved our Mosgiel Shop to newer bigger premises, and the team has been running at full tilt since opening in September. Now we are focused on our new Oamaru shop, which will be in the new Oamaru Hospice Hub.

We all can play a part in this extraordinary fundraising initiative, so please think of us when you are spring cleaning. We welcome good quality pre-loved items. And we can even pick up. Check out our website to find the shop nearest you.



Farmers campaign contributes directly to Hospice Services

Farmers annual Tree of Remembrance was a huge success running through the Christmas season of 2017 and raised \$40,000 for the Otago region.

As part of a nation-wide campaign, the Farmers campaign gives shoppers an opportunity to remember someone special in the lead up to Christmas.

CEO of Otago Community Hospice, Ginny Green says Oamaru and Dunedin Farmers have always been great supporters of the hospice.

“We are always overwhelmed by how the staff and management really commit to this campaign, helping us get the messages out about Hospice as well as raising significant funds.”

Farmers store Dunedin Manager, Shelly Amezcua says the store customers appreciate that all donations raised in store remain in their local community to support friends and loved ones here.



Hospice Golf Tournament hits 10 years of fundraising

Kevin Galliven (AKA Gully), from The Southern Trust, celebrated a decade of fundraising for Otago Community Hospice through his annual Golf Tournament and auction in October 2017

The tournament, which began in 2007, is very popular with golfers keen to have a day on the course, and to also raise money for Otago's well-loved Hospice. Over the last decade, the charity event has raised well over \$300,000 for the Hospice. And this year the event raised an incredible \$45,000.

“There is a lot of work that goes into organising the golf tournament, but it is all worth it given what we raise for the Hospice, such an excellent service.

We normally have at least 40 teams. Many of the teams have had some direct involvement with the Hospice service, so there's a real drive to be involved with what is considered the best charity golf tournament of the year. We even have a waiting list,” says Gully.

“The players love the day; they are extremely well fed and watered. The golf is followed by an auction and an evening meal. We have some fantastic sponsors including Lion Breweries, Tiny's Butchery in Milton, The Southern Trust and Mike Dougherty from Edinburgh Realty. We couldn't do it without them.”

Tahu MacKenzie, the lead educator from Orokonui, and Harvey Penfold install a new bird feeder in the Hospice gardens.



North Otago Hospice Hub starts taking shape

The North Otago Hospice Hub makeover has started at 343 Thames Highway.

The Hospice Hub will open in mid-2018, providing a purpose-built space for the Otago Community Hospice's Patient Services, Hospice Education Services and a new Hospice Shop.

It's been a long time coming, so it is exciting for our team that work has begun on the building, knowing that soon we will have our much-needed Hospice Hub in Oamaru.

"We've started with some of the smaller jobs, like lining the back store room, which will be the new Hospice Store drop-off point and sorting room. We have finalised drawings for renovating the rest of the building. Next step will be to put out the tender for the builder/project manager, so we'll be ready to hit the go button once consent comes through," says Ginny Green.

The Hospice Hub building purchase and renovations have been funded through North Otago fundraising efforts by the Lions Clubs, The Boar 'n' Stag Hunting Competitions, Portside Punch and other events coordinated by Sally-Ann Donnelly, a significant bequest from the late Nigel Wilson and many individual and group donations.

Until we open the hub, our services will continue running as normal and our store, which is a key part of our fundraising model, is open and needs continued community support.



The Monarch Club celebrates Xmas

The Hospice has a bequest group – The Monarch Club – for those who have made plans for a bequest to Hospice in their will. Every year we gather for a Christmas celebration and this year's event was a cracker. We were entertained by the soaring voices of Gladys Hope, Peter Chin and Arnold Bachop as they moved through a repertoire of classics. Then everyone joined in for a rousing five minutes of carols.

It is just a small way of us saying thank you to this special group.

The Monarch Club bequests are something the Hospice relies upon, with bequests going directly to our foundation trust, which is a critical and sustainable source of funding for us to continue our important work long into the future.

If you are thinking about your will, and would like consider leaving a future bequest to the Hospice, please contact Becs Wilson becs.wilson@otagohospice.co.nz. If you have already made a bequest, please let us know so we can thank you personally and also discuss how you would want your future gift invested.

Valley Project donates bird feeder to Hospice

The Valley Project, as part of the Open Valley Urban Ecosanctuary, in partnership with Orokonui Ecosanctuary, donated the very substantial bird feeder to the Hospice, as part of their mission to encourage more birds to the valley.

The Open Valley Urban Ecosanctuary is undertaking many different initiatives to create a low-pest environment in the valley, where human livelihoods, and cultural, historical and environmental features of the valley are valued and sustained, by and for everyone.

Hopefully, we've chosen a good site that will entice birds, and also so patients can see our avian neighbours feeding. If you want a bird feeder like this for your own garden, they can be purchased from Orokonui.

Hospice Shop gets new truck for about town

If you are out and about in Dunedin, you may well see the new and very busy Hospice truck, co-funded by the Dunedin Casino Charitable Trust.

The truck was purchased with a cornerstone grant of \$20,000 from the Casino trust, and other donated funds.

Hospice CEO Ginny Green says with changing health and safety requirements, and increasing number of pick ups, including plenty of furniture moving meant that finding funding for a bigger, better-equipped truck became urgent at the beginning of this year.

Bond Street Shop Manager Cat Callanan says the truck has revolutionized shop pick ups for her and the shop team, being a lot bigger and having a hydraulic lift.

Hon Stan Rodger, the Chairman of the Dunedin Casino Charitable Trust says the Trust was thrilled to be able to help.

"The work of the Otago Hospice is so very important to many vulnerable people and their families. The truck will clearly be of considerable assistance in the fund-raising activities of the Hospice."

Lucy Bell from the Dunedin Casino and Cat Callanan from the Bond Street Hospice Shop.



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Fundraising shorts

BNI Bonanza

We are ever grateful to the fabulous BNI groups in Dunedin who keep us annually stocked with biscuits for our volunteer teams and go the extra mile with fundraising contributing significant funds every year.



Tractor Trek

By the time you get this, the annual Tractor Trek will have passed through Cromwell as part of its mission to trek 2600km from Bluff to Cape Reinga over 26 days finishing up on the 9 March 2016, raising funds for hospices throughout New Zealand.

Gifting in Kind

This year, we were once again overwhelmed with generous gifts in kind. A huge number of companies contribute to the Hospice service each year, and we are incredibly grateful to those who continue to support us in this very meaningful way.

So a heartfelt thanks to all of the businesses that have assisted us lately...

- Datacom
- Dynamic Distribution
- Erbau Spa
- Firebrand
- Foley Plumbers
- Initial Hygiene Dunedin
- Linwood Holdings
- Mobility Solutions Centre
- Kaan's Catering Supplies
- Pacific Finline
- Serviceman Limited
- TAK Flooring
- Total Carpet Solutions
- Waste Management



Foley plumbers did our gutters after the big winds.

Volunteers

Another crucial part of our fundraising strategy is our army of volunteers, without whom we couldn't do what we do. The volunteers help us in the shops, the kitchen, maintain our gardens beautifully, provide support in the IPU and on reception, and also play a significant role in the fundraising efforts during Hospice Awareness Week. If you have considered volunteering, have a chat to our Co-ordinator of Volunteers Rebecca Shaw rebecca.shaw@otagohospice.co.nz

The following volunteers received long service awards in the last six months:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 15 years June Watt – Reception | 6 years Margaret Pearce – Gardening |
| 11 years Catherine Caley – Biography | 5 years Beryl Jones – Biography |
| 10 years Helen Pannett – Reception | 5 years Anne Maree Wigley – Housekeeping |
| 10 Years Chris Cleavin – Reception | 5 years Pip Idour – Kitchen |
| 8 Years Raewyn Prattley – Biography | 5 years Allen Harley – Mosgiel |
| 6 years Bridget Brown – Biography | 5 years Christine Cross – Bond Street Shop |

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**Dinner
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**SAVE
THE
DATE**

Dinner Club : Friday 23 March 2018

We are pleased to announce that our March Dinner Club will be held on 23 March 2018 at Precinct Food in Vogel Street. Liz and her team will be providing an exciting menu and tickets will be limited. If you are interested in joining our dinner club, let us know and we'll pop you on the database.

For those in Central Otago, we are looking at starting a dinner club in your region, so let us know if you'd like to host or join the club. Email tessa.scott@otagohospice.co.nz Save the date and we'll be in touch when tickets become available!