



# Our Home



## Warmest greetings from Soumy and Sumy

Christmas greetings from all of us at Tasman!

"The best Christmas gift is to realise how much you already have". This might be something that we have already heard or deep down what we feel. When I think of it, it brings me a lot of positivity, it inspires me, keeps me grounded and helps me to connect with the true essence of Christmas. What are we grateful for?

We are grateful for the opportunity we have been provided to care for and support our lovely elderly residents at Tasman. We are grateful for the trust you have placed in us, and the on-going kindness and support we are receiving from the dear family members in our difficult times. We are grateful for every simple smile and word of appreciation you give whenever you visit. We are grateful for our amazing staff members who come into our homes determined to make a difference in people's lives. This is the true spirit of Christmas which stays with us all year long.

We would like to thank all those EPOAs who took the time to complete and return our recent survey. Your feedback is invaluable and so much appreciated. We will be collating the responses and raising Quality Improvements to address any issues identified. Please remember that any specific concerns which may arise from day to day should be addressed personally with us as soon as possible.

We have had many special celebrations together over the past few months. Father's Day and Matariki were celebrated, each in their own special way. We are especially happy that so many family members were able to join their dads for the Father's Day Happy Hour and capture a lovely photo: memories forever. A big thank you to the students, class teacher, and parents who volunteered to visit Tasman and do a Haka performance and a play for our lovely residents. They brought so much joy to our home with their beautiful

smiles and lovely performance. Other recent activities have included van rides to the beach and park, garden walks, ice cream cones, lemonades, and a nice summer BBQ on our patio. Cooking club is a fun, relaxed environment to make food and try new recipes.

Our staff team are as excited as our residents to put up the Christmas tree and ornaments, and sing along with the familiar carols we remember from our childhood. Do you have a special Christmas cake or cookie recipe you would like to share with our residents and staff? Do not hesitate to bring it along when you visit, we would love to bake it in our homes. It would be even more special if you would join us to bake it.

A huge thank you to Elaine, who is a volunteer Chaplin and visits Tasman weekly. Elaine facilitate a monthly church service, weekly sing along, and one on one visits with our residents. We are also happy to welcome back our volunteer ukulele team and regular entertainers back to Tasman. Our residents also enjoy the short visits from our furry friends who pop in to visit us.

Huge congratulations to the team members who received their residency this year, and a warm welcome to all our new staff members who have joined Tasman over the past months. We want to acknowledge your courage and commitment in coming to a new country to join our team.

Whatever has happened in the past year, the New Year brings fresh beginnings. This New Year we give thanks for the blessings of the past and the promise of the future; and renew our commitment to be "proactive, innovative and courageous, and to enrich each person, the community and the world", as our Vision and Values teaches us.

We do things differently, and it works.

December 2022

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*We most warmly invite you to join us  
for our*  
**Christmas Gathering**  
*on Wednesday 14th December,  
from 2:30 to 3:30pm*

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*Magic moments take place between  
residents and staff every day here at  
our home, bringing fulfilment and  
joy to us all.*



## Happy Christmas from Andrew Sheard

I always look forward to this time of year in our homes. The sounds of kids' chitter chatter as they visit their relatives, and the faces of residents, staff and families alike lighting up as they greet each other or prepare some food or a Christmas tree for celebrations.

It is a time to focus on the people we love and care for most, and often that helps to put the worries and issues of the past year into perspective.

It is always a special time for my family as well. The sense of wonder, excitement and anticipation from our children makes the stresses of getting everything done at this time of year so worthwhile.

We've recently finished working on a new website and we'd love you to have a look. We're really proud of how it's looking as it reflects what's important to us – the people we care for, their families, our staff, the special times we have together, and most of all the freedom to be ourselves within the home. These are the things that make residents and their whānau feel truly at home.

We would like to thank all the residents and families who gave their permission for us to use their photos or the photos of their loved ones. We think the photos on the website reflect the people who make our homes special and we are very grateful that we're able to use them.

Please do let us know what you think and if there is anything else you'd like to see on the website, which you will find at <https://www.dementiacarenz.co.nz/>

As this is our last newsletter of the year. I would like to pay tribute to our staff teams.

I'm sure you will have heard the issues we have had in aged care with staff shortages in particular over the past year or so. This, combined with resident and staff illness from COVID-19 and other causes, has made it an incredibly challenging year.

We are very fortunate to have such great and loyal teams that have helped us to navigate through these challenges and continue to provide such loving care to residents.

Thank you all for your patience with COVID-19 closures and restrictions. We know it has been difficult with COVID-19 cases and our homes being closed at times while we have managed those cases.

It is not easy balancing the need to reduce transmission of COVID-19 with the need for you to see your loved one and their need to see you. We really appreciate you respecting our decisions around this and helping to keep our home as safe as possible.

All of these challenges make celebrating this time of year even more special and important.

I wish each and every one of you a very happy Christmas.