



Our Home



A message from Rona and Micah

2023 is fast approaching and it has been an eventful couple of months. We said farewell to Debra, and Micah Frasco has joined us as the new Operations Manager. We wish Debra the best for the future.

Micah has loved getting to know the residents, families and staff over the past couple of weeks. Her passion for aged care grew when she had the privilege of working with residents living with Dementia during the pandemic. She finds this role to be fulfilling and rewarding, working in management and aged care. She is looking forward to meeting more of you over the next few weeks.

Micah came to New Zealand in 2015 to study Business Management. Since then, she has fallen in love with Aotearoa and decided to make this beautiful country her new home away from home. She comes from a big close-knit family with different medical backgrounds as nurses and doctors. Micah has a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing but her career path and interest grew into Business Management.

As we reflect on what we've been through together for the past two years with COVID-19, we would like to take this moment to thank all of you for your understanding and patience during our lockdown in Admatha Home last August and with our ever-changing protocols when visiting your loved ones.

It's such a relief that restrictions are finally lifting, however, we still need to make sure that we are not putting your loved ones at risk.

We are requiring that visitors provide a negative RAT test before visiting your family member. We will provide test kits and the test should be taken before you visit or onsite and results should then be given to staff. Masks are still required when visitors are walking inside the home, but they can be removed when sitting down in the lounge enjoying a cuppa with your loved one and when wandering about the gardens to enjoy fresh summer breeze.

We would like to thank all the 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 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.

With Christmas just around the corner, we have started to plan our activities and events for the next month. We are happy to share that our residents have been enjoying van outings again and doing more outdoor activities such as gardening. The Diversional Therapist team has also prepared a wonderful Christmas Party in December for our lovely residents and families. Please see the details over the page.

We are really looking forward to seeing you all over Christmas time. It is a special time to get together and get to know each other even better.

Happy Christmas from Andrew Sheard

*We most warmly invite you to join us
for our*

Christmas Gathering

*Admatha Lodge: Tuesday 13
December 2.30-3.30pm*

*Admatha Home: Thursday 15
December 2.30-3.30 pm*



*Two of our Admatha Lodge residents,
Warren and Ken, enjoy a morning stroll
overlooking the creek*



*Our resident Larry playing along on the
guitar with a fellow musician during a live
entertainment session here at our home.*

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.