



Our Home

Nau mai haere mai i te whānau o Leighton House panui

*“Ehara taku toa ite toa takitahi
Engari ... he toa takitini
My strength is not as an individual
But ... as a collective”*

Greetings to whānau, friends and community.

As we reflect back over this past year, there have been some challenges we have faced, and at times uncertainty. However with the support of you all and our amazing team standing together we have gathered strength from each other as we take each day as it comes.

In October we closed to visitors for our second COVID-19 wave. Our staff did a tremendous job getting on top of this and we managed to re-open very quickly. Again thank you to all for your patience and understanding for us here at Leighton House and for the challenges faced by the aged care sector as a whole.

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 extend a warm welcome to Nancy Aupouri and Kini Serubasaga, who have joined our Registered Nurse team on a casual basis. Both currently work for Puhi Kaiti Medical Center and we are most grateful for their support.

We are also delighted to have Isobel Mill-Bensemen (Bella) join our activity team. Bella has come from working with our local cancer society as the receptionist and was looking for a change of career direction, while continuing to support and empower others. We are delighted to have her passion and energy on board!

With summer approaching we have looked at ways we can improve airflow through our facility. What better



way than to utilise the breeze from our very own Turanga River! We removed two glass panels from the garden wing decking and placed a lovely walk way onto the grass area. This has allowed the lovely river breeze to flow into the garden wing area.

What a tremendous achievement to have our translated visions and values of Leighton House Rest Home acknowledged in a pōwhiri on the week of Te Wiki o te Reo Māori. This monumental effort to have the work completed on time was thanks to everyone who dedicated themselves to making this celebration with whānau, friends, and staff members possible. The beautiful karanga was given by our Diversional Therapist team leader Violet Kiriona and the karakia was given by Coby Te Pairi who also volunteers and sings waiata for our residents regularly. Our residents also sang a waiata.

Recently we asked whānau and friends to join in in nominating names as we are looking to change our “wing names” to ones that are more meaningful and reflect who we are. We received many nominations and are excited to say the selection process has now been completed and names have been chosen that were submitted by you. Watch this space, as we hope to have these officially announced in the new year, along with the nominees.

We had a wonderful Father’s Day this year in September as we had our local motorcycle club and vintage car club arrive to show us their collection for the morning, which was a real hit with all, and handed out “bow tie bags” for all our gentlemen.

We have come to the close of another happy and very memorable year here at our home. We wish you all a joyous Christmas and all the very best for 2023, and hope to see them often over the coming year.



Christmas Family Gathering

2022 has been another busy year for everyone.
Let's take the time to relax and unwind with family and friends

Date: December 13th
Time : 2 pm to 4 pm

Refreshments and Beverages
(excluding alcohol)

Please RSVP by Dec 9th or see Violet



Our gentlemen enjoyed a visit from our local Vintage Car Club and Motorcycle Club this Father's Day



Celebrating the translated Vision and Values of Leighton House Rest Home

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 adds magic to this busy time of year.

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.