



Millvale House
M I R A M A R

Our Home



Greetings from the Millvale House Miramar Team

Spring is ending and Wellingtonians are ready to enjoy the warmth of the sun and the cool breeze of the southern wind this summer. Millvale House Miramar is opening the doors and letting the sunshine into our home. It is the time when our residents will enjoy outdoor tea, walks in the garden and other activities we traditionally associate with Kiwi summertime.

We've had a wonderful and challenging couple of months here in the home with many changes. Our entertainers are back to provide harmonic and melodious songs for our residents. Joan, our regular pianist, comes every Saturday to share her talent with everyone. Our canine friends are also visiting again which brings happiness and sense of familiarity to residents who love dogs. We also recently celebrated our annual Cultural Day with our staff dancing and singing with residents. Both staff and residents so much enjoy the colour, energy and joy this special occasion brings.

Residents have also been greatly enjoying a variety of different musical activities arranged by our diversional therapy staff. Some love to participate in the playing of our much-loved piano with wonderful classical songs. Others enjoy taking part in karaoke or sing-along videos, while others prefer to play the ukulele. Music is a great love for many of our residents.

Thank you for your continued patience with our COVID-19 restrictions over the course of the year. It is never an easy decision, or one we undertake lightly, to close the home to visitors for any reason. Thank you very much for your patience when this is necessary. We know it is not easy when you can't see your loved ones and they miss you so much too.

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've had a number of staff training courses over the past couple of months. We had sessions on first aid and care planning, as well as providing a variety of other important and instructive in-house courses to continuously up-skill our staff team.

We have been able to soften the impact of nation-wide staffing shortages through intensive recruitment locally and abroad. Almost all of our new care staff are overseas-trained nurses who we are supporting to become NZ Registered Nurses in time to come.

We have also had many staff progressing into more senior roles which is great to see. I would like to congratulate our staff team this year. It has been a challenging year at times and our team has overcome all the hurdles that have come along.

We are looking forward to seeing you all over Christmas time. It is an exciting time for staff and residents alike, and a great time to get together.

Please see the details of our Christmas gathering over the page. We'd love it if you could join us.

Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year to you all.

We do things differently, and it works.

December 2022

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.

*We most warmly invite you to join us
for our
Christmas Gathering
on Sunday 18th December from
2.30-3.30pm*



*Jigsaws are a favourite pastime here
at our home*



*Helping with familiar household
tasks provides a sense of value
and purpose*