It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas...

Kia ora tatou. After an extremely challenging year, we are determined to finish on a positive note and so we are fully embracing the festive season. I have lost count of the Christmas trees in the Village but there's at least one in every wing and every lounge in the Village, all beautifully decorated by an army of willing volunteers, residents and their families.

Our 'Christmas Door Competition' has been able to be resurrected this year and has been hotly contested. We have seen many family and staff members striding the halls purposefully, arms laden with tinsel and crepe paper. There are some really creative and innovative doors, some of which appeared magically overnight. For examples of their handiwork see page 3.

I must confess that my own door was lavishly decorated by an anonymous Christmas elf and although no-one has owned up to the grinch theme... I have my suspicions!

At the time of printing, the winner is yet to be announced but if you keep an eye on Facebook you'll see who takes out the grand prize.

While you're there, keep an eye out for our Christmas Party photos which takes place later this month. Pre-pandemic we held lots of smaller events but because we now can, we are again holding one grand party! Cottage and Care Facility residents, staff, and volunteers will come and

go throughout the day to share good cheer and a beautiful spread put on by the ever supportive Neat Eats team.

But for all the frivolity it's been quite a year. Our Village has been resolute and resilient. I'm extremely proud of all our team who have multi-tasked, worked extra hours, and supported each other. A huge thanks for your amazing contributions as we battled several outbreaks of COVID.

As staffing problems continue to hit aged care throughout New Zealand, we saw some light when the Minister of Health announced that there would be additional funding. This ensures our aged care workers will be paid the same as healthcare workers in the Public Health system, and rightfully so!

We hope this goes some way to incentivising people to continue or begin a career in aged care.

Our Village continues to grow even as others are building retirement complexes in Kerikeri. This year has seen us welcome a large number of new residents into the Village whanau. These new people continue to enrich our wee community.

We are all are excited about the new community centre and we expect the planning to proceed next year as we work our way towards fruition.

In closing, I'd like to give a huge thanks to our team of volunteers who have stuck with us through COVID outbreaks and who bring so much light and joy to our residents. You are all treasures, and we are so grateful for your kindness and ongoing support.

Best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy holiday season.

Meri kirihimete and hari tau hou. Stay safe, vaccinated, and happy!



Welcome to...







Roly Brightmore



A Taste of Home

Freshly prepared meals and snacks can have a huge impact on the appetites and well-being of our residents.

To ensure that we meet the complex dietary requirements of those in our care, our kitchen is managed by Cater Plus an external catering management company.

Their qualified dieticians and executive chefs develop delicious, nutritious menus that are freshly prepared onsite by staff who have received extensive training in food handling procedures and safety standards.

Cater Plus work with our clinical teams to adjust menus for specific medical conditions and can cater to cultural preferences and food sensitivities, providing options:

- Vegetarian
- Vegan
- Halal
- Nut/Egg/Seafood/Dairy/GF

High-level expertise, together with fresh, seasonal produce, that is carefully prepared and served by locals, means there is lots of love on the plate and ensures our residents really look forward to mealtimes.





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Christmas at the Village



Dunk It for Plunket

Our residents have a long history with Plunket and decided to show their support for this valuable community resource by hosting a Dunk It for Plunket morning tea. They had a great time reminiscing with retired Plunket Nurse, Mary Fenton and raised \$208.







Al Fresco Dining

Recently 38 of us gathered around the brazier. A few residents roasted sausages on a stick, but most were happy to sit back and enjoy a wee tipple while bbq expert Michael Aicken cooked their sausies to perfection. These were served with his homemade pickle which was made of vegetables harvested from our community garden.

For dessert we made smores which involves squishing roasted marshmallows between two chocolate digestives – just delicious!

Musical Cheer

Music plays a huge part in enriching the lives of our residents so, once it was safe for us to entertain again, we've hosted a variety of concerts by the Windjammers, Kerikeri & Quail Ridge Ukulele Groups, Vintage Vinyl and Musical Memory Makers. Thank you to all the wonderful musicians who volunteer their time and brighten our days.











Village Times

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Rock'n great times ahead

Have you seen the beautiful painted rocks around the village? Kerikeri Rocks is a local group that paints, hides and finds rocks. There are similar groups all over the world and it all began on Facebook as a way to engage children in the outside world.

So for example, members might post photos of rocks they have hidden around the area to the Kerikeri Rocks Facebook page. Followers then go hunting and post their own picture holding those rocks when they find them.

Our Activities Co-ordinator, Karen Hawtin, posted on Social Media that

the Village would appreciate some painted rocks.

The response was overwhelming and we were sent rocks from groups all over NZ including Rotorocks in Rotorua. Some hand-delivered theirs as they were passing by in campers, while others were brought in by locals.

Our residents also enjoyed painting some rocks for the collection.

All of the rocks were displayed in our new rock garden beside the Social Centre but will shortly be hidden about the grounds to create our own garden trail.



















New Rockery

The gardening team has transformed the area in front of the Chapel into a new rockery. The addition of wrought iron furniture, donated by Michael Goldfinch, and a fountain which was purchased from the sale of Nel Graveson's plants, has resulted in a much more inviting spot to watch the world go by.



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Village Activities Co-ordinator Karen Hawtin, seen here with Michael Aicken, won this fabulous garden furniture in a MORE FM radio promotion. It now sits pride of place for Michael and his crew of community gardeners to enjoy.



Janet and George try out the new bench crafted by the blokes at The Men's Shed and paid for by the money raised by residents in our Citrus Celebration.

Quiz Night

After a two year hiatus, residents were very happy to gather in the Social Centre for what turned out to be a very challenging Quiz Night.

Congrats to new team 747 who took out the win.









Gardening Tips

Robin Booth often volunteers his time, sharing his travel photos with Village residents.

During his last visit, the creator of Wharepuke Nursery brought in some amazing specimens from his garden.

OneTwoSeven





Say goodbye to property upkeep and maintenance of your place, and join us at ours. It's not just a place to live, it's a community, with always something on and great people to socialise with.

Options include:

- 1 bedroom
- 2 bedrooms
- Premium 2 bedrooms plus study

Features at a glance:

- Optional garaging & parking
- Common lounge and dining spaces gather your friends for a BBQ
- Each apartment has laundry facilities
- Architecturally designed
- Plenty of storage
- Maintenance-free living
- 2 lifts for easy access
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Prices from \$470,000

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Book Club

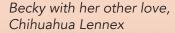
This is a very informal group that shares their latest read before passing the book onto someone else. Recently residents went on a spending spree at the local Life Education Trust Book Fair and bought 35 books to add to our libraries. Book Club meets on the second Thursday of each month in the Pavilion Lounge at 2pm.



Foster Hope

Every year our residents donate presents to ensure that the children in our community don't miss out.

Here are some of the gifts that were donated to Foster Hope.





Staff Wellness Yoga class

I'm Becky and every Wednesday I offer a gentle Yoga class at the village. If you've never been to yoga before then maybe now is your time to try it! You may be pleasantly surprised at how good you feel afterwards. All classes are gentle and will help you to take care of yourself by building strength, balance and flexibility whilst helping with any injuries or aches and pains. You'll be guided through slow, mindful movements with focus on breath and sensations to help reconnect with body and mind.

As with many things in life changes are small and incremental, however Yoga has a way of drawing you in and becoming a cherished habit. I truly enjoy sharing my passion of yoga and I'd love to see more of you join the regulars... I'm sure they will vouch for how calm they feel after class! I have spare mats if you don't have your own, all you need to bring is your willing self.

Blooming Lovely

Jenny Phillips has been blessing us with her love of flowers for years. When Covid restrictions loosened, she popped in and gave all our dried arrangements a new lease on life which was hugely appreciated as fresh flowers have been in short supply following the recent weather events.



Diary Dates - Come and join the fun!

Mon Dec 19th at 2pm
CONCERT BY MUSICAL
MEMORY MAKERS
The Social Centre

Tues Dec. 20th at 3pm - CAROL SERVICE
The Chapel

Fri Jan 13th at 10am BUS TRIP TO OMATA WINERY

Mon Jan 23rd at 11am BRING & BUY 127 Apartments

Tues Jan 31st at 4pm
QUIZ NIGHT
The Social Centre

Fri Feb 17th at 10am VISIT TO DAHLIA FARM