



"to care always"

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Nelson Region Hospice Trust Newsletter **ISSUE #1 April 09**

Welcome

Welcome to the Hospice newsletter. We post or email the newsletter out to all current patients and families, paid and unpaid staff members and to bereaved families and other supporters in the community.

We will send newsletters by email. To receive your newsletter by email, please email: jen.sims@nelsonhospice.org.nz with

"subscribe" in the subject line. Please feel free to forward it to your friends and family.

If you want to remove your name from our mailing list, just phone us 546 3910 extn 2, or (for rural patients), your nearest District Nurses office.

From the CEO

I have been part of the Hospice family for 11 weeks now and what a welcome I have received! It has been a wonderfully positive experience for me and all the staff have been incredibly generous in accepting me into the team.

My career in the health sector stretches back a good number of years having originally completed my Nurses training in Nelson.

My last position was with the Nelson Marlborough DHB where I held the position of Funding Manager for "Older Persons Health" for five years before I assumed a brief role with "Palliative Care Services." I had only just taken over as Funding Manager for Palliative Care services when I was notified that I had been successful in my application for my current position with the Nelson Region Hospice.

I have two grown daughters and three grandchildren. I love living in the Nelson district and am thoroughly enjoying my new role.



Pat Curry CEO.

The Nelson Region Hospice Trust provides community and inpatient specialist palliative care services. We are supported by Medical Officers, Registered Nurses, Health Care Assistants, Allied Health, Administration staff, and Maintenance staff. We could also not manage to provide the quality service that we currently offer, without the ongoing support from a myriad of volunteers and community donations. Thank you Nelson and Tasman for your continued support.

Chairman's Report

On behalf of the Board, I wish to welcome our new CEO Pat Curry who has been with us now for almost three months. It is a joy to have her around, we admire her professional management style and her energy. I must thank the staff for carrying on the service from November until January. They are without doubt a team of willing and dedicated workers.

This will be a difficult year with the economy as it is. We are delighted to be told that we will receive a portion of the \$15 million allocated by the Government for Palliative Care Services across the country.

We are very grateful to the DHB and the people of Nelson / Tasman for their support in difficult times.

Elsbeth Kennedy QSO, MBE

Inside this issue

From the CEO	1
Upcoming fundraisers	2
Stoke Garden Club bows out with a gift to the Hospice	3
Patient Support services	3
Wish list & other ways to support Hospice	4

Upcoming fundraisers

Biannual Art Auction

15 May 2009, at the Ernest Rutherford Retirement Village. Please call the Trust office to donate art for sale.

Mid Winter Christmas Dinner

27 June at Trailways, Trafalgar Street, 7.30pm. Fine food and great jazz. Please call the Trust Office for further details.

Gareth Morgan

The financial consultant and adventurer returns with his wife Jo in July to the Trafalgar Centre.

Voices for Hospice.

10 and 11 October, Nelson College Assembly Hall. An international event with concerts happening around the world at the same time - beginning with NZ! Be part of this exciting event in support of your local hospice.

Website

Visit our website: www.nelsonhospice.org.nz to find further information on all events, read the latest news and make donations on-line.

Trust Office and Gallery

Located at 18 Buxton Square next to Di Pierri's Café. Each month a featured artist displays their work which is for sale. We still have good stocks of greeting cards, books and pens for sale.

If you or your group would like to raise funds for the Hospice please contact

Hamish Kennedy: Work 03 5463923; Home 03 5483797; Email: project.manager@nelsonhospice.org.nz
Watch out for updates provided by our supporters Classic Hits and the Nelson Mail.

Hospice Shop reports

Motueka

Exciting news for us - our shop is relocating across the road to the old Buddens and Labour Party office. We are looking forward to a much larger shop with more space to display the goods that people very kindly donate to Hospice. We hope to be in our new premises by early May.

In the meantime, we are still extremely busy with good stocks of winter clothing being replenished regularly. We continue to accept any saleable goods in good condition.

Thank you to our hard working volunteers. Your time is always hugely appreciated and will be more so as we prepare for our move!

Cathy Raey-Mackey (Shop Manager)
195 High St, Motueka Ph 528 1178

Takaka

Hello Everyone
Some chilly mornings and nights coming our way now, so come in and check out our winter range of jumpers and warmer clothing. We also have a good stock of jigsaws for those inside activities on cooler days.

The shop continues to be as busy and bustling as ever, so we are very keen for any donations of sundries, bric-a-brac in good condition and blankets, bedding and towels. We also welcome furniture,

lovely loud Bling jewellery and good men's clothing. It is lovely to see men in the shop having a browse.

Thank you to the shop volunteers and everyone who supports the shop.

Debbie Baker (Shop Manager)
29 Commercial St, Takaka
Ph 525 7639

Nelson

Hello everyone. Cooler mornings and evenings make me feel we are galloping towards winter and guess what??!! We already have a good selection of warm clothing in the shop which is selling like hot cakes and so we're replenishing the racks daily - all day and every day. For this, I'd like to thank the volunteers who work diligently to keep everything running so smoothly and so well.

Our aim is to make the shop the best little op shop in the South Island. If you haven't visited us yet, come in, look around and grab a bargain; there's many to be had. Then come on in the next day and grab another. All our stock is donated by many generous Nelsonians. We gratefully accept all items in good and saleable condition. All proceeds from the shop go to support your Hospice. Thank you all.

Irene Dunning (Shop Manager)
124 Bridge St, Nelson Ph 548 1823

Who are we?

Introducing staff and volunteers who work for Hospice. This month: volunteer Stephanie Skeggs.



Stephanie Skeggs

Twenty years ago, Stephanie answered an advert in the paper for a Hospice office volunteer. She had been tossing up between going back to work full time or Doing Something Else. We won and Stephanie has hung around. She says she finds us friendly and fun to work with and feels she is pretty much part of the furniture. Apart from her normal role of bereavement mailings, the patients' Christmas BBQ and birthday flowers, furniture actually plays a big part in Stephanie's role as she has helped us move house THREE times. Each time, she rolled up her sleeves, got stuck in and kept us on task. We can hear Stephanie even now, up to her elbows in a kitchen cupboard saying, "you don't need that, or that, give it to me" and out it would go. The thing is, she has been around so long, she actually does know better than us what we need and what we are keeping because we're too lazy to chuck it out. The other nice little thing about Stephanie is that she gives us presents when we move - new china for the kitchen, cushions - that sort of thing. AND she makes wonderful little pecan Christmas pies for the Christmas BBQ.

Stoke Garden Club bows out with a gift to the Hospice

The Stoke Garden Club would have been celebrating 50 years of togetherness, however a decision has been made to formally disband the Club. Dwindling membership has not however dampened the spirits of its current members. Although the club itself has decided to call it a day, the group in the photo will

continue an informal partnership bound together by their love of gardening and shared experiences. The club very kindly donated the entirety of its club fund to the Nelson Region Hospice Trust. CEO, Pat Curry enjoyed the lively conversation and is appreciative of the Club's generosity. Happy gardening to you all.



Patient support services

Library. In two locations: Items about illness and caregiving are kept in the small sittingroom of the East Wing of the IPU. Items about bereavement and books for children are in the office out the back of Eden Villa (corner of Tasman and Manuka Streets). Anyone is welcome to borrow from our library. Book reviewers are always needed. A short review form includes a mix of ticked categories and personal comments.

Creative Living. A day programme for patients, offering good company, conversation and useful activity. Upcoming dates are: **Tuesdays 7 and 21 April, 5 and 19 May, 2, 16 and 30 June 2009.** Ph 03 546 3910 extn 2 or speak to your nurse.

Another Creative Living project is the monthly art exhibition at the IPU, with

works by patients, families, staff and volunteers. The next theme will be Autumn (donations of pressed flowers and autumn leaves welcome).

Motueka Monday Club. Meets in Motueka on the third Monday in the month and is a combined Hospice and Cancer Society support group for anyone coping with cancer, terminal illness or bereavement. Friends and family members welcome. Next meetings will be on **Mondays 20 April 2 pm, 18 May 11.30 am and 15 June 2 pm.** (Housie, lunch in Tapawera and a cuppa and a chat respectively).

Biography Letter Writing. Our biographers have developed an information booklet detailing how to leave a written memento for your family or for friends. Biographers are also

Volunteers' clipboard

Team Meetings and other events

Golden Bay (12.30 pm third Wednesdays - now quarterly with volunteers) Wednesday 15 April, 19 August and 16 December. Please bring a small plate of food to share.

Bereavement Support Volunteers. By negotiation with Sharon!

Raffle volunteers. We have two more meetings in Nelson and one in Mapua.

Nelson: Wednesdays 15 July 10.00 am and 18 Nov 11.30 am.

Mapua: Monday 2 November 10.00 am in the village or the wharf.

Inservice, patient-care volunteers. Now Wednesday 6th May, (not 8th April as advertised). We could not get the speaker we wanted for April. Programme included for all volunteers who work with patients in some way.

Unit volunteers meeting (Second Mondays bimonthly normally 12.30). 6 April, 8 June, 10 Aug, 12 Oct, 14 Dec.

available to assist or to work with patients who wish to compile their biography or record stories from their life.

Cancer Support Services and Groups.

If you would like information about the Cancer Society's extensive services, ph 539 3662 or call at the office, 76A Waimea Rd, one up from the Hampden St/Waimea Rd corner opposite the Boys College.

Bereavement Group. Tuesday 19 May, 2.30 pm at Hospice Community Services office, 46 Manuka St. This group is facilitated by health professionals and runs for six weeks. Anyone who is bereaved is welcome to attend. Please phone the Hospice Community Services office for details. There is no charge to attend this group.

