

# Moana House & Village

## Newsletter

## August 2020

*Bring on some good news & brighter days*

Warmest Greeting to all our friends, associates and Residents families.

What a 'Covid' rollercoaster journey we've all been on so far this year and still looking like it's not going to end any time soon! It's been really trying times for rest home facilities in the country and thankfully here at Moana House we remain Covid free. Until just recently we were enjoying our 'new normal' and things were pretty much back to 'business as usual', enjoying our freedom, then unfortunately we're back to restrictions again!

Moana House always remains vigilant, we are prepared to go up in alert level at a moments notice. We have excellent procedures in place to handle these



situations and are ready for an outbreak if it occurs by having plenty of PPE supplies in stock,

staff are ready for an outbreak, and our visitor protocols are stringent. Whilst we remain continuously guided by the Ministry of Health, we will have no hesitation in increasing alert levels if it means safeguarding the health and welfare of our residents and staff. We have been keeping families and friends updated of the latest status via emails and our Facebook page. Currently we are looking at setting up 'Facetime' opportunities for families to contact their relative/ loved one. More on this on our Facebook page.

We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to family/Whanau, and friends for their patience and understanding through our lockdown periods. We are extremely pleased that we all came out safe and well. We would also like to thank our wonderful staff for their commitment to the residents and all their hard work during these times; juggling their

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## *Willson Gardens Retirement Village*

The Willson Gardens Residents are doing well under these circumstances. Even though the Moana House facility is in lockdown—at level 4, Willson Gardens are at level 2 (like the rest of the town) which means they have the freedom to travel and do their own shopping if they wish to. The Whangamata Community

Services Trust were absolutely brilliant in the last lockdown period doing individual shopping for the Willson Gardens Residents. This was a huge help and greatly appreciated.

Currently there are no units available for occupancy, however if you're interested you can be put on the waiting list.

own family needs with work. Their efforts have been tremendous!

## Residents Activities

Our Residents have enjoyed a multitude of activities since our last autumn newsletter. It was so good to have 'normality' back after being in lockdown for the four weeks by bringing entertainment back into the House. Matariki was celebrated at Moana



House with several activities to mark the occasion. **The Opoutere School Kapahaka Group** presented an exceptional performance for the Residents—singing Maori songs while dancing and using their poi. A truly powerful experience.

Belinda, the Activities Co-Ordinator, arranged for a portable hangi to be delivered to Moana House. She had



Pictured here is Maddie loading up the hangi, and Talia & Maddie, happy in their work cooking the Maori bread!

lots of helpers contributing to peeling and chopping the vegetables and making the Maori bread. The results were excellent—cooked to perfection.

**The annual Indoor Bowls Tournament** was held in June. The tournament was very competitive with many of our residents competing determined to win the cup. Despite the spirited opposition Brant managed to hold the lead becoming the reigning champion for the third year running! Brant really is quite incredible for his age, he's 102, lives independently in an apartment attached to Moana House and just gets on with life!



The **'Sensory Garden'** project has been making great progress lately, but unfortunately due to the current lockdown situation work has stopped for now. Pictured here are the MenzShed volunteers erecting the 'proud' gazebo—which they made offsite.



Anne Watts recently retired from the position of General Manager at Moana House after 20 years dedicated service. Anne worked hard for the standards of care and she represented the facility at regional and national level to our benefit. She guided the evolution of Moana House through changing times. Anne was wished all the best in her retirement.

