

Hospice News 2022

Otago Community Hospice Newsletter | February

CEO Message

Happy New Year!

A strange thing to be saying with the ongoing invasion of Covid-19 in all its forms.

On one hand it feels like we – as a community – are so well adapted to, and ready for, whatever will come our way.

On the other hand, I have to admit to a deep sense of weariness as we cancel our second Street Appeal – one of our biggest fundraisers, and double our efforts to keep staff, volunteers and shoppers safe in our Hospice Shops – alongside the continued increased vigilance around patient safety.

As you know, we never rest on our laurels here at Hospice.

While this pandemic carries on, our team continues to deliver services and support to patients and their whānau around Otago. We are being extra cautious with the new red traffic light setting as we cannot afford to have our team knocked out, as there really is no one to replace their expertise. So we continue to have some precautionary restrictions with things like visiting, distancing and the use of masks etc. This is in the inpatient unit as well as out in the community.

Our education team and our Kowhai Programme staff (education for carers) have both been severely hampered over the last few months, but remain positive about delivering the education that is needed via zoom and online resources. I know the team are amping to get back in the room and face-to-face with carers and health workers as soon as we are able to do that.

In preparation for the forecasted increase in palliative care needs, our teams continue adapting and refining how they work; as part of that we have established a new team of clinical nurse specialists which will work across the community team and inpatient unit.

We have also increased our focus on the aged residential care (ARC) sector, where there are extra pressures, especially for those dealing with palliative patients. Our ARC Support Service has been refining what it does with those working in the sector and this year we are extending our team numbers and investing

in the sector by establishing the Gordon Allen Foundation Trust Aged and Palliative Care Fellowship, which will see a nurse hot-housed as a palliative care nurse specialist in aged care.

As always, we strive to do what we can with the resources we have. But we rely upon our donor community to help us do this. Please do continue your support for Hospice – especially during these tough days of Omicron.

Ginny



ARC Fellowship



New ARC leadership team: Helen Harrex (Central Otago) with Sally Fleming and Sarah Wilson (Clutha, Dunedin up to Oamaru).

The aged residential care (ARC) workforce is in a state of crisis; and at Hospice, we are looking for ways in which we can support and help grow the workforce in this sector.

We are seeing a trend where New Zealanders are accessing residential care at a later stage, which means by the time they arrive at an aged care facility their stay will be shorter, but their need for expert care is more acute.

We know expert nurses will need to be leaders in this sector to ensure our elderly get the appropriate care at end of life.

At Otago Community Hospice, as a specialist provider, we take our responsibility to support partners in care very seriously. This is where our ARC Support Service team come into play, contributing significant education, advice and staff development in the ARC setting – and the ability to make a significant impact for both staff and patients.

We have had our ARC team working with the sector for five years now. This year, we are increasing the ARC resources, pulling more palliative care nurse experts into the focused team. We have also secured a fellowship from the Gordon Allen Foundation Trust to employ a nurse whose prime focus will be developing palliative care skills in an ARC setting. The fellowship will cover all costs associated with employment and development for the candidate. Hospice's intention is to hothouse this nurse with on-the-ground training, shadowing our highly skilled ARC team. At the same time, the candidate will undertake their Diploma in Palliative Care, with a focus on aged care.

Not only will this fellowship help us develop our in-house team, but also add a highly trained specialist nurse to the sector in a timely manner. If you'd like to make a donation directly to support this initiative, please email Michelle Rowe.

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otago
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Living Every Moment

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GOLF DAYS GALORE!

AOTEAROA GAMING TRUST GOLF DAY 2021

The Annual Southern Trust (now known as the Aotearoa Gaming Trust) Golf Tournament went ahead despite all the unknowns of October 2021. And as always, it turned on a magnificent day for all those keen golfers as well as raising an eye-popping \$48,000 for our Hospice. An incredible feat given the circumstances. We are so very lucky to have such loyal supporters of this tournament, who year-on-year make this event a success and in doing so contribute directly to Otago patient care. And a special mention to the ringmaster Kevin Galliven who makes the magic happen.



MAIDEN EDINBURGH LADIES GOLF

The inaugural Edinburgh Realty Ltd Women's Golf Tournament, hosted by Otago Golf Club Inc, teed off on Friday 10 December with 18 teams. The day turned out the sunshine, with many keen golfers and Hospice supporters turning on the food, beverages, prizes and entertainment. This is set to become an annual event in the Hospice's December calendar. A big thanks to all who attended, and if you are keen on participating this year on 9 December as a player, sponsor or supporter, please email Amy Ruthven on amy.ruthven@otagohospice.co.nz



The Tartan Tammies: Rosie Clark, Merrin Bath (OCH Board Member & Sponsor), Tracy Lamb and Sharon Stumbles

FARMERS CAMPAIGN

Dunedin and Oamaru Farmers stores raised \$32,378.36 during the Hospice Farmers Christmas Campaign from November right up until Christmas Eve.

The 2021 limited-edition hospice bauble was themed on "Togetherness".

"Togetherness is such a crucial theme for Hospice. We see people coming together year-round. We see communities supporting each other and working together to create a space where people feel comfort and compassion during what are incredibly tough times for families," says Hospice CEO Ginny Green.

"This is especially important right now, as we all start to feel the deeper impact of the long running COVID-19 pandemic. This is the seventh year Farmers has run the hospice-focussed campaign, with more than \$230,000 raised across its lifetime in Otago."

\$32,378.36 RAISED





Rotary Trailer Raffle

The Trailer Raffle got underway with a hiss and a roar last November, with ticket sales happening all over the region. Phil Jones (pic) landed the big prize of the trailer and thousands of dollars of vouchers for various brands at Mitre 10 Mega. Phil's father was cared for by Hospice a few years ago, and he's been buying tickets ever since. When our photographer left the photoshoot paddock, Phil was preparing to hide the trailer ready to surprise his partner with the winnings.

Once again, a big thank you to Rotary Club of Dunedin South for organising the trailer raffle and a big shout out to Mitre 10 Mega team who sponsor the trailer raffle with such excellent prizes and support.



CHARITY CAR CRUISE PLAN B

On Sunday the 21st of November car enthusiasts from around Dunedin rocked up to support the "Plan B" Charity Car Cruise. There was a drive through BBQ and John aka Blue Boy was there serving up snow freeze for the kids (big and small).

The limit of 100 cars didn't stop this event raising an awesome \$4,500 for Hospice. A big thanks to Ken Schumacher and the team who year on year – come COVID or rain – undertake a car-focussed fundraiser on our behalf.

CROMWELL CLOSES DOORS



Over the last few years, we have been looking for a new retail space for our Cromwell Hospice Shop which had to shift this February. Sadly we were unsuccessful in our mission and at the end of 2021 we made the difficult decision to shut the shop at the end of January.

Retail Development Manager Cat Callanan says while it had been a heart-breaking decision, the current rental environment in Central Otago made it untenable, and now the focus will be on ensuring our large shop in Alexandra makes up the income loss. Cat, who set up the Cromwell Hospice Shop up in 2013 says the shop has been a good little earner for over nine years.

"We want to thank our volunteers for their incredible contribution to the Cromwell Hospice Shop, our wonderful shop manager Charmaine and the amazingly generous community, which has enabled us to run the shop and make a valuable contribution (Over \$337,000 over nine years) to our growing Hospice team in Central Otago.

"We will continue to look for opportunities in Cromwell and the surrounding area as this region is very important to the Hospice, with patient numbers in Central Otago continuing to grow.

"During this time of upheaval, we ask that our supporters, where they can, support our Alexandra Shop."

Hospice News

Hospice Events Calendar 2022

February/March

Online Otago Hospice Street Appeal

give-a-little.co.nz/cause/cancellation-of-second-street-appeal

9–15 May

Hospice Awareness Week

Spring

Central Otago Dinner Club

Keep an eye on our website for information on these and future events.

otagohospice.co.nz

SNAPSHOT OF OUR SERVICE DELIVERY IN THE REGION

Total number of patients on programme in the year

761

Average number of patients on programme at any one time

230

Patients by disease

78% 22%
CANCER NON-CANCER

Admissions to the IPU

181

Community visits

3,343

Phone contacts

9,038

Family support contacts

2,631

Kilometres driven

420,000
APPROXIMATELY

Kowhai Programme (Carer education)

294*

Student Placements at OCH

NURSING – 4 GP INTERNS – 6

Students – palliative education

NURSING – 156 MEDICAL – 400 PHARMACY – 131
NETP NURSES (NEW ENTRY TO PRACTICE) – 60

Palliative Care for Care Assistants Education

22* ATTENDEES THROUGHOUT OTAGO

Syringe Driver training

200* ATTENDEES THROUGHOUT OTAGO REGION

* NUMBERS ARE DOWN DUE TO COVID-19 CANCELLATIONS OF NUMEROUS PROGRAMMES

THANK YOU!

Our heartfelt thanks to the following Trusts who recently supported us with extremely generous grants:

Central Lakes Trust

Bendigo Valley Sports & Charity Foundation

EMM Haynes Charitable Trust

Goodwill Charitable Trust

William Sheriff Charitable Trust

Upper Clutha Hospice Trust

Downie Stewart Trust

LINK Upper Clutha Hospice Trust

Dunedin City Council

Aotearoa Gaming Trust

Healthcare Otago Charitable Trust

John Lemon Charitable Trust

Dunedin Casino Charitable Trust

The Trusts Community Foundation

Grassroots Trust Central

BECOME A FRIEND OF HOSPICE TODAY



Consider becoming a Friend of Hospice by setting up an automatic payment.

Your regular payment will go directly to the costs associated with specialist palliative care such as a counselling session for a family member \$125 (\$10.41 per month) or a specialist doctor visiting a patient in their home for \$300 (\$25 a month).

Contact: Michelle on **03 473 1044**
or email friends@otagohospice.co.nz