

2020 in hindsight...thank goodness!

As the most challenging of years draws to a close, we are reflecting on the incredible support we receive from our community. Volunteering, baking, donations of quality items to sell in our Masterton and Greytown Shops and at our regular Saturday Garage Sale at our base in Renall St, wonderful businesses that are sponsoring programmes or the Shop Van or Hospice car, other generous businesses donating goods or services in kind, those who donated during our Street Appeal...we are truly grateful to you all.

This is the only way we can bridge the gap between our annual government funding of \$11,800 and our \$600,000+ operational costs to ensure we can continue to offer all our support packages free of charge to those on a palliative journey.

We are excitedly working on feasibility studies to find a way to bring Hospice inpatient beds to our community. It has always been a vision of Hospice Wairarapa to be able to offer equity in the choice of a place to die in our community, understanding that with the best will in the world, it is not always possible to die at home should that be the patient's choice.

December also brings to a close a staffing chapter, with our Clinical Services Manager Wendy Turton leaving us, after almost 6 years, to return to her Gypsy roots and travel our highways and byways in a fabulous bus. Wendy has developed and championed our psychosocial services into the valued and respected supports they are, both for our patients, caregivers, families and whānau and in the professional spaces Wendy engages in. We wish Wendy all the best and thank her for her passion and dedication to our community hospice.

As we come into the Festive Season, we are reminded here at Hospice that there will be families who will find this a difficult time, and particularly so this year. We are here to help plan for over that time, so please don't hesitate to give us a call.



May I take this opportunity to thank you for your support and wish you a peaceful and relaxing Christmas in ways that are special to you and your loved ones.

Kindest wishes,

Suzie Adamson, General Manager

Hospice Christmas Closedown



Te Kowhai: Weds 23 Dec to Mon 4 Jan
Masterton Shop: closed stat days only
Greytown Store: closed stat days only

The last **Garage Sale** at Renall St will be held on 19 Dec and it will recommence on 9 Jan

Give and help share the joy this Christmas

Purchase the 2020 limited-edition collectors' bauble for \$10 each from Farmers Masterton and 100% of your donation will stay in the Wairarapa to help keep our hospice services free of charge for our community.



A word from the Chair

We are now well into the second half of the year, and what a year 2020 has been for all of us. Moving between Covid alert levels has meant we have needed to change how we do things. At Level 2 we implement restricted services to our patients and caregivers, to protect our patients, their whānau, Hospice employees, and our valuable Volunteers.

It is these wonderful Volunteers I would like to personally thank on behalf of the Board of Trustees. Volunteers cover every aspect of the services that Hospice Wairarapa provides, and it is easy for us to not see the huge amount of hours that are dedicated by the volunteer base. What we absolutely see is the great impact that the actions of the Volunteers have across the Hospice community.

Each and every one of you are to be applauded for your commitment and time and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Gavin Hodder, Board Chair

A warm welcome, a fond farewell

It is hard to believe that we are nearing the end of the whirlwind that was 2020. The past 11 months have been very different to any we have lived before. We have had to learn a different way of communication and have been taught to appreciate things that may have never been acknowledged in other years. Change is a constant in our lives.

We welcome Alison Andrews to the hospice team as Patient and Family coordinator. Alison joins us working part time and will have the privileged position of meeting those who are referred to Hospice, offering support and services.

As Suzie mentioned, I am off to appreciate those other little things and look forward to exploring our country again. I have loved being part of the Hospice Wairarapa team and will miss the team and the opportunities that I have had to meet such wonderful people in our community. We are an incredibly fortunate community to be surrounded by so many that offer their support and time.

I hope that everyone has the chance to reflect on those moments in 2020 that have brought a smile to your faces. While it has been a different year – I know that there have been glimpses of magic in our days, and hope that there are more to come.

Merry Christmas.

Wendy Turton, Clinical Services Manager