

**RANFURLY CARE SOCIETY
INCORPORATED**

TWENTY YEAR ANNIVERSARY

1992 - 2012

REFLECTIONS

RANFURLY'S JOURNEY 1991 - 2012

Ara Marama - The Enlightened Pathway



52-56 Ranfurly Road, Epsom, Auckland and the falé



45 Cornwall Park Avenue, Epsom, Auckland



Activity Centre 56 Ranfurly Road and below Duncan House Arkles Bay, Whangaparaoa



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THE 2011 Revised BROCHURE in line with the Website

Our Beginnings the Society was established in 1991 when a group of concerned families united to form a society and purchase the former IHC facility in Ranfurly Road, Epsom, to operate a Residential Home and Activity Centre on the site. They raised the deposit to secure the \$665,000 property. After several months lobbying, their bid was finally accepted and the Ranfurly Care Society became a reality. Since that time, the buildings have been extensively refurbished to meet our high standards, thanks to the support and generosity of the ASB in particular, and many other benefactors.

Our Team

Our professional management team, which is responsible for the day to day running of the Residential Home and Activity Centre, is supported by a President and an Executive Committee. They are responsible for monitoring the Society's Policies and the Service it provides.

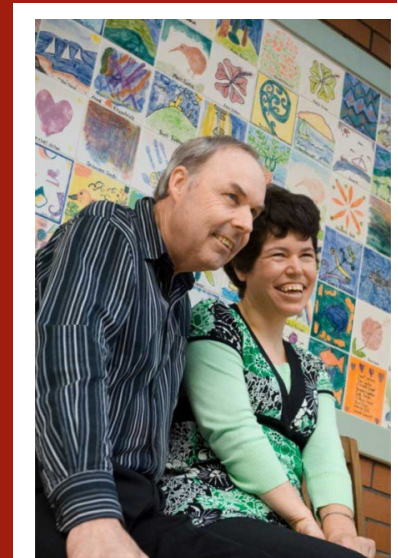
Most members of this committee are parents or family members who therefore take an active interest in the residents' and students' progress and welfare. Ministry of Health and New Zealand Work & Income contribute the funding for daily care in the Residential Home. The Ministry of Social Development contribute towards funding for the Activity Centre and its programmes. Committee members are responsible for additional fundraising to maintain and upgrade buildings and assets, including any equipment which will improve or enhance the residents' or students' facilities.

Cornwall Park Avenue – Assisted Living

Cornwall Park Avenue (CPA) offers twenty four hour support for twelve permanent residents with intellectual disabilities to live in their own units and also one shared flat. The residents enjoy the opportunity of the 'living skills' programme, which is the main focus of CPA. This provides individual staff support in household management i.e. menu planning, budgeting, shopping, cooking, cleaning, laundry and personal care etc.

All residents are invited to share Saturday evening together which commences with a traditional roast meal. There are also many other occasions i.e. birthdays outings etc, when they meet for shared celebrations and activities. Their weekdays are spent either at work/and or at their choice of Community Participation Day Programme

Additional staff are employed to increase community interaction at evenings and weekends. Residents have the option to participate in ten pin bowling, and outings such as exploring the wider Auckland area including parks, beaches and reserves, church /cultural venue of their choice. Other places of interest and local entertainment would include shows, ballet, movies etc. The weekends are also a time to spend with family and friends.



Valuing Relationships

We believe in the value of relationships and the promotion of a harmonious family environment for our residents and indeed full family support and involvement has always been welcomed. Our long standing staff are empathetic caregivers and are committed to providing continuity of care in a secure environment. These caregivers are strongly encouraged to work in a supportive rather than directive role. All staff work towards integrating residents in their local and wider community. Residents are consulted and services are provided in a culturally appropriate manner, consistent with the Treaty of Waitangi and assisted by local hapu.

Enhancing the Quality of Life

Ranfurly Care Society is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for people who have intellectual disabilities. We offer a caring environment which encourages our residents to lead lives which are as 'main stream' as possible. We aim to build their self-esteem and confidence through encouraging learning and life skills training.

Ranfurly Residential Home

We provide twenty four hour support for permanent residents, as well as offering short term respite care for caregivers with intellectually disabled dependents. Residents are encouraged to develop a realistic level of independence based on their individual capabilities and to participate as much as possible in normal everyday activities. They are encouraged to decorate their own rooms according to personal taste. Our objective is to create a family/whanau environment where residents and staff can interact with one another in a homely atmosphere.

We pursue community integration for our residents by providing frequent and informal outings. These are designed to encourage social interaction with the broader community, by means of shopping excursions, church attendance, movies and many other recreational and leisure pursuits.

As a family/whanau organisation, the Society has an 'open door' policy that encourages family/whanau and friends to visit at any time and they are welcome to participate in any aspect of society life.

Daily diaries are kept for each resident and entries by either staff or family/whanau/caregiver (depending on where the resident is on a particular day) ensure that the channels of communication regarding the resident's social life are kept open

The home-like environment allows resident interaction and the building of friendships while also pursuing individual interests. Additional staff are employed to increase community interaction on the weekends where residents take part in regular outings such as shopping, tenpin bowling, exploring Auckland, Reserves, Parks and Beaches, cultural venues or church as they choose and a variety of places of interest and local entertainment. The weekends are also a time that they can spend with their family and friends. Each resident has an annual holiday at a New Zealand destination



Ranfurly Activity Centre

Is a facility for people with intellectual disabilities from the wider community and Ranfurly residents. The Centre provides both encouragement for learning and leisure activities with a special focus on 'Community Participation'. Our highly trained staff comes from a variety of backgrounds - nursing, teaching and the arts, but they all have one thing in common - a passion for helping people develop through encouraging learning and creativity.

A recent acquisition originating from a legacy is Duncan House, Arkles Bay, Whangaparaoa. This is Ranfurly's' own holiday home which is now fully and separately staffed Monday to Thursday each week. Residents now have the pleasure of holidaying there from two to four days every couple of months.

Activities and Learning

These are some of the photos taken for the brochure



The Centre provides a stimulating blend of encouraging learning, creative and physical classes during the day. The established programme comprises of a comprehensive choice of over forty different group activities which are all developed to suit individual capabilities and personal requirements. A typical day includes activities such as communication, computer skills, arts and crafts, music, education, drama, cooking, pottery, woodworking, and gardening. Some people (referred to as students) receive individual tuition but all participate in small group activities.

Each person has an appointed staff member as 'Coach' for a full year who has overall responsibility to ensure each individual has an annual goal (s) that it is achieved and becomes part of their Lifestyle Plan. We believe in a holistic approach of maintaining physical as well as intellectual well-being, so an exercise programme is included in our daily schedule with morning walks, swimming, folk & line dancing, indoor bowls and ten pin bowling. A professionally equipped gymnasium and a weekly visit from a personal trainer is available to the Activity Centre students.

Respite Care

Our 'Carer Support' programme offers short term relief and emergency assistance for the family/whanau/caregiver of intellectually disabled people. This invaluable service gives the family/whanau/caregiver a much needed break while providing the person who is dependent on them with a stimulating new environment where they can meet new friends and learn new skills in a friendly, homely atmosphere

The Ranfurly Care Society promotes the spiritual, physical and intellectual well-being of people with an intellectual disability. We stand as an advocate in the community, working for an environment that is protective, caring and educational; offering choices, promoting social contact and building a sense of achievement.



The Ranfurly Road Kitchen – preparing the veggie's



45 Cornwall Park Avenue

RANFURLY CARE SOCIETY INCORPORATED

Reflections by Linda Nelson PREFACE

This story is recalled from my own perspective of the manifestation of an amazing twenty year journey reminisced by me in my role as the Manager of the Society. Jan Mitchell wrote a booklet 'Giving Family Choices' for the 10th Anniversary Celebrations that has been widely distributed over the subsequent years.

To quote Shakespeare "we play many parts in our lives."

"All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players; they have their exits and their entrances, and one man in his time plays many parts".

How true this is, as this was one part I had never envisaged playing and yet this experience has truly enriched my life through being able to help other families like myself who have cared for a child or a sibling with an intellectual disability. I have learnt so much through all the amazing people I have met providing community services and through staff who have wanted to make a difference to people's daily lives.

Twenty Years Anniversary Celebration is a gratifying journey of reflection, progress, growth, development and remembrance of the special times that we have shared together.

To all the special families that I have had the pleasure to meet over the years I would like to quote some very thought provoking words of understanding taken from a New Zealand Herald article written by Dr. John Langley the Dean of Auckland University.

"Being a parent (or caregiver) is not easy under any circumstances and being the parent of a person with severe or profound disabilities (or other disability) takes something in the nature of superhuman effort. To those involved the road must look like an endless road, the fact so many walk that road daily makes them some of society's heroes. They get little recognition for their effort, all too few resources and, often, precious little support. Yet they do it. Why. Because there is something universally precious about our children, regardless of whom they are or what level of ability. They bring out the best and worst in us, the most joy and the most sadness, the most pride and most frustration. That is why".

Over the years I have been humbled by the amazing generosity to Ranfurly by individuals, businesses, and Trusts who have supported us by either financial assistance or by their thoughts, words, or deeds. It is a reality that when one is doing something in the Universe for the good of others it comes back tenfold or more. We could not have managed in the early years without substantial financial contribution from benevolent donors such as: ASB Trust, Chas Watters, May Harvey, Graeme Reid, Doreen Bryant, Pauline Brookes, the Duncan Family, Maurice Paykel Trust, Fisher Trust, Royal Oak Trust, Lion Foundation, Southern Region Trust, T&M Carr and Sir E Davies Trusts, Lottery Board, John Logan Campbell Trust, Charles Scott Charitable Trust, Jr Mc Kenzie Trust, Felicia Worley and recently her husband Ian Sinclair Broadfoot. We cannot thank enough all those additional friends and families of Ranfurly who have also supported us with financial assistance initially and over the following years.

No one day at Ranfurly for me is ever the same; there are always exceptions to the usual routine. It is one of constant change, greetings and goodbyes to visitors and tradesman onsite, decision making, preparing for audits, meeting many challenges and crises as they evolve, sharing everyone's joy and sadness, achievements or frustrations, fulfillment, success, and satisfaction or disappointment, and always the love, fun and laughter. Ranfurly's ongoing focus is to ensure Ranfurly remains different to *'just another service provider'*.

It has been a journey which was created in 1990 to overcome an injustice that would have eventuated had we not intercepted to change the inevitable course. As Jan said in the 'Giving Family Choices' story; "We did not set out in the beginning to start a new society and provide a new service, it was inevitable that this would be the result, given the strong minded people in the Cornwall Branch of IHC and the inflexibility of the management in Wellington".

The emerging discrimination and the changes evolving at that time appeared to be saying 'we do not listen to families'. Yet it was families that had created the IHC Society way back on 24 July 1950 at the Commodore Lounge, Customs Street Auckland when 180 people met and formed the Auckland Branch

of the Intellectually Handicapped Children's Parents Association. In March 1951 the first Annual Conference was held in Wellington.

In 1990 families were concerned that the IHC Societies 'new policies' could take away their freedom of choice and would not acknowledge or listen to the right for family members to make key decisions affecting their own family members' lives whom they had nurtured and loved for many years. This was verified by the Right Honorable Jenny Shipley (later to become Prime Minister) who affirmed the government's willingness to encourage other service providers such as ourselves. She stated "The Government, while they respect the IHC view on what they would prefer, in administering the support subsidies is quite adamant that the subsidy can be used in organisations or institutions larger than the six people".

We had been constantly told by the IHC National Office that the Government would not fund homes of more than 6 people, but this statement by the Minister of Social Welfare confirmed that this was an IHC not a Government limitation.

I along with other family members of the Epsom Branch was driven by frustration to prevent the sale of 52-56 Ranfurly Road. I was guided by my own personal principals, beliefs and personal experience as to the care of the more profoundly intellectually disabled who require full support of care twenty four hours a day.

IHC now known as Idea Services changed their philosophy to 'Community Living' at the time of the de institutionalization of residential care in 1990. In principal the decision was to be applauded as change was needed for people with disabilities in order for them to experience a more 'normal life' and not be shut away with virtually no choices for their everyday living.

Research has shown over the past twenty years that since deinstitutionalization people feel greater personal autonomy, pride in the acquisition of daily living skills, being cared about as individuals, they live a more varied life; and experience a greater sense of personal safety. There is a higher standard of living, increased acceptance in community, increased opportunities for recreational and leisure activities and for using community facilities, a greater engagement in ongoing personal and domestic activities and support from care staff.

However, one cap does not fit all, and as agreed by the Government there should always be choice and it is very important that people who live together are compatible. Most people with an intellectual disability require a life time of support to enhance their well being and safety.

We as a group have always felt that at all times there should never be no less than two staff on duty when caring for the intellectually disabled. The reason is that it provides protection for both the staff and the protection of the disabled person. It is a very responsible and lonely position for one staff member to be left in a home caring for five-six people in the community. Every person has differing individual needs, some may have challenging behaviour, health or epileptic problems. Another difficulty with small housing is, if there is only one staff on duty how can the residents truly interact in the community. Each house would require a vehicle that can carry the residents and the staff member, as most residents should not be left in a home on their own. Through forming our own Society we have been able to provide families with a choice of community living. For families peace of mind we have provided 24 hour support and security which includes awake staff on the night shift at Ranfurly Road.

By having a larger home our service has between two to four staff on each shift, which means we can provide one to one on community visits or outings if required. Staff can take the residents to the doctor, specialist, dentist, hairdresser, etc. on their own. In the weekends we have extra outing staff which enables residents to go out at any time either individually or in small groups to a variety of places.

Finding experienced staff has been a problem over the years especially finding staff that can deal with the care of the more challenging residents often with dual diagnosis (often undiagnosed) as mental health problems often present differently in people with intellectual disabilities.

As one can imagine the staff have to deal with an enormous range of duties – a holistic range that should be recognised as a profession as it requires a larger range of skills work than many other professions. As said previously we all play many different roles and caregivers certainly do just that.

One great loss to the care of the intellectually disabled was the removal of psychopaedic nurses when New Zealand went through the process of de institutionalization in the early 1990. These were the especially trained staff who were working at Mangere hospital and other institutions in New Zealand. The term psychopaedic nurse is a term unique to New Zealand, and in the United Kingdom these nurses

are called 'leaning disability nurses'. These nurses have historically provided specialist nursing care (broad health care rather than mental health care exclusively) for people with intellectual disabilities in New Zealand.

However, changes to nursing education in New Zealand in recent years largely resulted in the demise of the specialty of psychopaedic nursing. With the number of remaining psychopaedic nurses declining it has become harder to argue that there is a specialist and visible group of nurses uniquely qualified to provide care for people with intellectual disabilities in the community.

For me personally Ranfurly Care is my daughter Linda's legacy as without her I would probably have never been involved in this amazing journey working with people with an intellectual disability.

Lou was born in England 26 July 1965 and passed away 18 August 2004

Known as Lou, Linda has given us all an appreciation of life through her pure innocence, teaching us compassion, patience, tolerance, love and the full perspective of life through her many setbacks and challenges. Her spiritual aura always shone through in spite of her continuing ill health.

Lou was very much a part of Ranfurly – she came to work with me each morning and we went home each day together. She made many friends and was an inspiration to all.

I hope the beautiful words of this poem *which was read at the funeral service of one of our residents – Caresse Knight* will bring comfort to those families who are finding the journey difficult..... Imparted to me by Brother Gabriel of the GIFT Centre.

Blessings in Disguise

God sends his 'little angels' in many forms and guises,

They come as lovely miracles that God alone devises-

For He does nothing without purpose, everything's a perfect plan

To fulfill in bounteous measure – all he ever promised man –

For every 'little angel' with a body bent and broken

Or a little mind retarded, or little words unspoken,

Is just God's way of trying to reach and touch the hand?

Of all who do not know Him and cannot understand

That often through an angel who's "wings will never fly"

The Lord is pointing out the way to His eternal sky

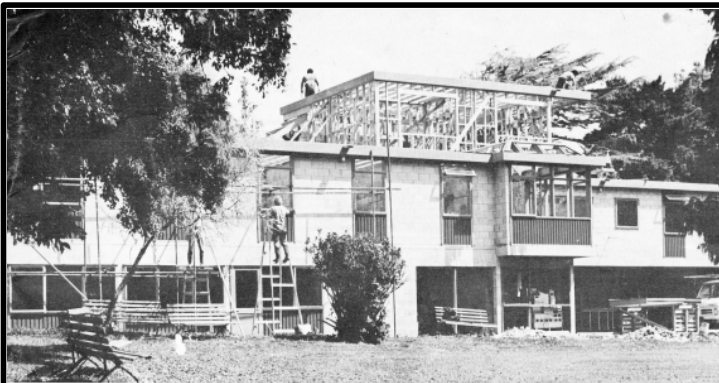
Where there will be no handicaps of body, soul or mind

And where all limitations will be dropped and left behind

So accept these 'little angels' as gifts from God above

And thank him for this lesson in Faith and Hope and Love

THE BEGINNING OF THE RANFURLY CARE SOCIETY



The INTELLECTUALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN'S SOCIETY (Inc.)
AUCKLAND BRANCH
ANNUAL REPORT 1971/72

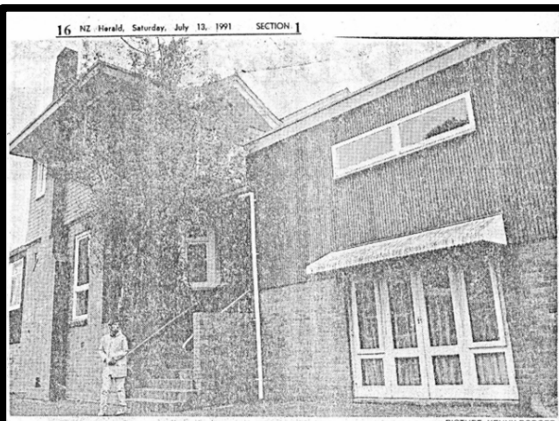
In 1950 - 180 people met and formed the Auckland Branch of the Intellectually Handicapped Children's Parents Association.

1961 they purchase a two storeyed home at 56 Ranfurly Road to use as its headquarters and an Opportunity Workshop.

Photo taken from the IHC 1971/1972 Annual report illustrating the building progress of their 52-56 Ranfurly Road property.

1973 IHC Ranfurly House Hostel for 30 residents opened cost approximately \$220,000.

1991 The Ranfurly Care Society Inc. purchased the property at 52-56 Ranfurly Road, Epsom.



The hostel and activities centre in Epsom

Row brews over sale of hostel

By AUDREY YOUNG

A row is brewing in the Society for the Intellectually Handicapped over its decision to sell the Ranfurly hostel and activities centre in Epsom, Auckland.

At the heart of the still-growing dispute is the society's change in philosophy from providing large residential institutions and activities centres for the intellectually handicapped to concentrating on smaller community houses and centres.

Members of the Cornwall branch of the society, many of whom helped to raise funds for the Ranfurly complex 20 years ago, not only want to keep the site but to redevelop it.

The society intended to use proceeds from the sale of the Ranfurly facility to reduce mortgages raised by IHC to buy houses in Auckland, and to relocate the remaining occupants at the Ranfurly site.

But members of the Cornwall branch believe the facilities have been deliberately run down and its condition cannot be used to justify its sale.

The national director of the IHC, Mr J. B. Munro, said four residents were living in the hostel and about 30 adults attended day programmes at the vocational centre which had been partly damaged by fire. The branch office was also based there.

He said that, in line with IHC policy, larger complexes throughout the country were being sold and replaced with "ordinary houses in the suburbs and small towns where the residents' needs can be better met."

In the whole sales programme, only the Cornwall branch had shown any resistance, which made it a very difficult decision.

"Not everyone likes the idea of selling something which 20 or 30 years ago was built with the energy and dedication of parents and family as a 31-bed hostel and 60-place sheltered workshop."

Mr Munro could not put a value on the property. He said it would probably be sold by tender.

The vice-president of the Cornwall branch, Mrs Linda Nelson, said the branch had worked for several months on proposals to redevelop the site in line with IHC policy and in ways which would require no extra money.

She took the proposal to a meeting two weeks ago of the ruling New Zealand council but it had been ignored.

Against the Cornwall branch wishes, the council, consisting of representatives of the other 51 branches, had decided to sell.

The proposal included a plan to sell part of the site to provide permanent and short-term housing, a creche, a physiotherapy and aerobics centre and a number of features to draw other sections of the community to use the resources.

Previous attempts in the past seven years to sell the property had been defeated and the branch would meet shortly to decide what steps could be taken to save it now.

Mrs Nelson said branch members supported moves to smaller houses but not as a blanket policy. They believed facilities such as Ranfurly offered an option to the handicapped "whose disabilities and needs are so diverse."

It was no surprise that there were so few residents in the hostel because people had been encouraged to live in community houses.

The branch had wanted to use insurance money to repair the part of the activities centre damaged in a fire two years ago, but the affected area had been boarded up.

For Sale By Tender

On behalf of NZ Society for the Intellectually Handicapped (Inc)

52 AND 56 RANFURLY ROAD, EPSOM - 52 AND 56 RANFURLY ROAD, EPSOM - 52 AND 56 RANFURLY ROAD, EPSOM

259 MANUKAU ROAD, EPSOM - 259 MANUKAU ROAD, EPSOM - 259 MANUKAU ROAD, EPSOM

TENDER • TENDER • TENDER • TENDER • TENDER

Two Adjoining Properties in the heart of Epsom, being offered as two Lots, for Sale by Tender.

The Properties:

- 52 and 56 Ranfurly Road, Epsom. Lot(s) described as Lot 1 52/56/73, Part Allotment 20 and 21 Section 10 Suburbs of Auckland contained in CT 386/776.
- 259 Manukau Road, Epsom. Lot(s) described as Lot 1 259/54/66, Part Allotment 23 Section 10 Suburbs of Auckland. CT 118/19.

• 259 Manukau Road, Epsom. Lot(s) described as Lot 1 259/54/66, Part Allotment 23 Section 10 Suburbs of Auckland. CT 118/19.

- Original 2 Bedroom Weatherboard Bungalow.
- Situated on 232 square metre site with development potential.

ZONING: Residential 1 under the Auckland City Council Proposed Scheme 1987.

For Tender Documents and Inspection on these two lots properties contact:
David Grove, Landcorp Realty Limited, Phone 091 307 7882, Level 13, Ames House, 67-69 Symonds Street, Auckland.

Tenders close at 4.00pm on Thursday, 10th October 1991.

Landcorp
LANDCORP REALTY LIMITED MREINZ
on behalf of NZ Society for the Intellectually Handicapped (Inc).

TENDER • TENDER • TENDER • TENDER • TENDER

'Roderick Dean, the President of IHC and J.B. Munroe C.E.O of IHC ignored the Cornwall Branch's unremitting representation of their unanimously approved motions which upheld, the principals and beliefs held by the members. They completely overturned the wishes of the branch and families and passed a seven part resolution to sell the Ranfurly property.....'

Tender Central Epsom

On behalf of NZ Society for the Intellectually Handicapped (Inc)

52, 56 Ranfurly Road, Epsom
Ranfurly Home, Multi-Accommodation
Plus 2 Storey Residence.

Adjoining
259 Manukau Road, Epsom
Original 2 Bedroom Bungalow on 1232m² site with development potential.

Two outstanding properties in the heart of Epsom. Being offered as two Lots. For Sale by Tender.

For further information on these two lots properties contact:
David Grove, Landcorp Realty Limited, Phone 091 307 7882, Level 13, Ames House, 67-69 Symonds Street, Auckland.

Full tender details are available at the above address. Tenders close at 4.00pm on Thursday, 10th October 1991.

Landcorp
LANDCORP REALTY LIMITED MREINZ

TENDER • TENDER • TENDER • TENDER • TENDER

approved motions which upheld, the principals and beliefs held by the members. They completely overturned the wishes of the branch and families and passed a seven part resolution to sell the Ranfurly property.....'

Wednesday, October 16, 1991 No. 40

Parents keen to buy IHC centre

'We want say in where children live'

By SHANNON HULSE

A group of parents of intellectually handicapped people is anxiously waiting to see if it can buy Epsom's Ranfurly complex.

Initially Ranfurly Care's \$665,000 offer, backed by a \$600,000 Housing Corporation loan, was rejected by the IHC.

However, it was accepted in November after the IHC had been unsuccessful in its attempt to get a price closer to its \$1.1 million valuation.

Originally, many of the parents objected to the sale of the building, believing that they had paid for it through fundraising when it was built 20 years ago. But when it was obvious the IHC was going ahead with the sale, they decided to try to buy it.

The Ranfurly Care Hostel will accommodate 12 permanent residents and will also offer short-term daycare and overnight facilities.

Parents try to get funds for IHC centre

A group of parents of intellectually handicapped people are anxiously waiting to see whether they can keep a facility they helped to build 20 years ago.

The parents, about 25 members of the Cornwall branch of the Society for the Intellectually Handicapped, are trying to buy the Ranfurly complex in Epsom.

The complex was put on the market by the IHC head office.

Tenders for the residential and activities centre close tomorrow afternoon.

The parents group, with the unwieldy handle The Ranfurly Care Society for Persons Who are Intellectually Handicapped Incorporated, has applied to the Housing Corporation for a loan in order to tender for the centre.

The secretary of the society, Mrs Linda Nelson, said no amount was specified; that depended on what value the Housing Corporation put on the grounds and building.

Mrs Nelson, who is also vice-president of the Cornwall branch of IHC, said parents objected strongly to having to "pay for it twice," having fund-raised to build it, but buying it was the only way to keep it open.

If the loan is turned down, the group may make a last-minute approach to another organisation possibly a bank.

Legal action to stop the sale has not been ruled out.

backing from the Housing Corporation. Lida Nelson of the Ranfurly Care Group says the parents want to keep the centre so they can have a choice where their children live. She says all the parents have an alliance with the IHC movement, but many feel it is being too rigid with its policy of moving the intellectually handicapped into the community.

She says her own daughter is a good example of people who would not suit the community living programme.

The hostel is now up for tender. Mr Green said, "We put in a tender which was not accepted, although it was in excess of others offered."

Mr Green said the Care Society, an organisation of parents, was not formed as a breakaway group from IHC. "We simply feel that

IHC hostel faces closure

PARENTS FIGHT TO SAVE HOME

Parents of the intellectually handicapped are upset by IHC moves to sell the Ranfurly Hostel in Epsom.

The hostel was built with funds raised by parents plus a dollar for dollar Government subsidy. The property title was handed to the society for safekeeping," said Ranfurly Care Society spokesman John Green.

"This was with the understanding that it would not be sold."

Parents should have more input," he said. "IHC is deeply in debt, largely due to its philosophy of accommodating the intellectually handicapped in hostels rather than houses."

Mr Green said IHC cannot afford the house concept for all intellectually handicapped.

"A house with three to four inmates needs at least three staff.

"The Ranfurly Care Society want to finance a loan to buy the hostel and believe it can be run successfully with a secretary-manager, house parents and four to five staff."

"There would be vocational activities, nursing care and social interaction on a more cost-effective basis than houses," Mr Green said.

Mr Green and his wife Phyllis, who have a 42-year-old intellectually handicapped daughter with a mental age of 2½, are concerned about the stress being placed on aging parents.

A purpose-built hostel like Ranfurly is badly needed for specific cases," Mr Green said.



The Ranfurly Hostel — a haven built with money raised by parents.

Mr Green said parents could upgrade the hostel and have it run efficiently.

"We already know the Housing Corporation is prepared to lend the finance."

Mr Green said parents of the intellectually handicapped are not "totally against" the housing concept.

"We simply believe parents should have another option,"



John and Phyllis Green — anxious parents.

She says if the parents are successful with their tender they will have more people living at the centre.

"I already have about eight people who would like to move in."

She says five of these people have tried living in houses in the community, and they want to come back.

"We are allowed to choose where we live. We can choose to live in hostels or retirement villages with a lot of other people, so why can't they?"

She says the centre would be developed as a family unit, with activities and socials for the intellectually handicapped as well as relief for those caring for them.

Mrs Nelson says the Ranfurly centre suited her daughter well.

"It had such a lovely atmosphere, and the other residents would mother her."

The Ranfurly centre was purpose-built for intellectually handicapped people in 1971.

About four or five people now live there, and a further 20 to 30 go to the workshop on the site.

The centre has had three different valuations, all around \$800,000.

Many of the parents helped raise funds for the building when it was built, and Mrs Nelson says it is immoral they should have to pay for it twice.

"That really sticks in the gut, but we don't want to lose the building. We would never get anything like it in the suburbs."

25.10.91
NZ HERALD

Objectors still hope to buy Ranfurly

A protest banner strung across the front of the Ranfurly centre for the intellectually handicapped, which is on the market, was removed yesterday by the Society for the Intellectually Handicapped.

The banner was put up on Wednesday by members of Ranfurly Care, a group of parents of people with an intellectual handicap, who also belong to IHC and who are trying to buy the Epsom property from the society.

Their tender and the one other that was submitted were rejected. The IHC has had discussions with both groups and another party interested in buying the hostel and activities centre.

Ranfurly Care believes the third party is a developer with no commitment to keeping the place as a facility for the intellectually handicapped.

The national director of the IHC, Mr J. B. Munro, said he was still waiting to hear from Ranfurly Care if it wants to continue negotiating.

The IHC properties board will discuss the sale on Tuesday.

4/11/91
NZ HERALD

\$30,000 gift to IHC parents

By TONY BERENDS

A \$30,000 donation has been made to the parents' group tendering for the Ranfurly hostel that is being sold by the Society for the Intellectually Handicapped.

But the donation will not boost the group's funds to anywhere near the asking price — said to be close to \$1 million.

The group's chairman, Mr John Green, said a Housing Corporation valuer put a \$700,000 estimate on the 3500 sq m property in Epsom a few weeks ago.

The 25 parents of the society's Cornwall branch put in one of two tenders received for the hostel and grounds. They offered \$665,000 — backed by a promise of a Housing Corporation loan — and a commercial developer tendered about \$500,000, he said.

The society wants to sell the property to fund its programme of buying smaller houses in the community.

The parents' group, Ranfurly Care, believes it can find many parents who do not want community houses for their intellectually handicapped children.



Mr Green and his daughter, Jan, with the protest banner he helped to re-hoist at the centre yesterday.

MP deplores rejection of parents' tender

By AUDREY YOUNG

The MP for Epsom, Mrs Chris Fletcher, yesterday accused the Society for the Intellectually Handicapped of behaving in a high-handed manner towards a group of parents which is trying to buy the Ranfurly hostel in Epsom.

The complex, in the Eden electorate, was put up for sale by tender by the society to fund its programme of buying houses in the community.

About 25 parents in the Cornwall branch of the society formed a group, Ranfurly Care, and with the promise of Housing Corporation backing submitted one of the two tenders received three weeks ago.

based on what she said was a fair market valuation, has been rejected.

The national director of IHC, Mr J. B. Munro, said this week that discussions are continuing with Ranfurly Care and other interested buyers. Members of the society's properties board "were unanimous in their view that IHC has a duty to secure a higher price than that currently being offered by the Ranfurly Care Society."

Mrs Fletcher was delighted to hear yesterday that Ranfurly Care had re-submitted a protest banner which was removed from the front of the centre last week by IHC officials.

The chairman of Ranfurly

it would stay up longer this time because it was outside IHC property, on Munro's Rd.

Mr Green said there would be no shortage of parents who believed the community houses were not the best option for their intellectually handicapped children.

Mrs Fletcher said she wondered about the motives of the IHC in the outcome of the tender process.

"What is its agenda? Is it that they are opposed to that type of hostel care? Quite what it is I don't know."

She had the support of the Minister of Social Welfare, Mrs Shipley, and the Minister of Housing, Mr Lutton, with whom she had been in consultation regularly.

She said the Government had done all it could to persuade the IHC to sell to the parents, "but we can't improve" because they legally own the building.

She said the parents who had raised money 20 years ago to build the facility might not be the legal owners, but they were the moral owners.

They had complied with the tender process and dated, "And now, J. B. Munro says he is about to be searched out in a high-

Parents near hostel goal

A group of parents of intellectually handicapped people have moved closer to their goal of owning and running the Ranfurly hostel in Epsom.

The venture is expected to set an example for other parents who might be considering setting up similar facilities.

About 25 parents formed the Ranfurly Care Society for Persons Who Are Intellectually Challenged and

tendered for the property at the end of last year. The parents officially take possession on February 1 and have appointed a board of trustees to oversee the purchase.

The board chairman, Mr John Radley, said that the future of the hostel would be watched with interest by other parents who might want to set up similar organisations.

NZ HERALD

8/11/91

IHC sales method 'losing support'

The Society for the Intellectually Handicapped is losing public support because of the way it is handling the sale of the Ranfurly centre in Epson, says the NZ Herald, the New Zealand Herald.

Mr Graham said he was making the criticism to the NZ Herd as part of the parents' bid to have the centre sold to a group of people who had offered to buy it.

Parents asked about the Ranfurly home in the first place, they gave it to the IHC and are now offering to buy it.

Whatever the merits and demerits, the fact is that the bid from the parents was close to a valuation prepared by the Housing Corporation and the IHC officials, says a spokesman.

The IHC had refused to accept the tender and clearly managed money supporters of the school.

If the matter cannot be resolved quickly, it means the IHC will continue to lose public support over the matter, and at the end of the day only the Ranfurly school IHC trustees will suffer.

Ellis Gould

Barristers & Solicitors

21 DECEMBER 1991

The New Zealand Society for the Intellectually Handicapped (IHC)
National Office
700-80, 1043 700-800
Wellington

Re: Mr David Deane
Director of Properties

21.06. Ranfurly Road, Epson

Reference to the meeting held at IHC's offices on 21 October 1991 with Messrs F. W. G. Rogers, Mr David Deane of Landmark, Mr Ian Taylor from Housing Corporation and other parties representing the Ranfurly Care Society.

At the conclusion of the meeting, you indicated that the Ranfurly Care Society would be seeking to purchase the Ranfurly Road property from Housing Corporation and other parties representing the Ranfurly Care Society.

With regard to the Ranfurly Care Society's offer of the Ranfurly Road property, it is important for you to be aware that the offer was made by a committee of the Ranfurly Care Society and not by the Ranfurly Care Society itself. The offer was made on the basis of the information available at the time and you are advised that the offer may be subject to a number of conditions.

We are sure that you will be satisfied that the Ranfurly Care Society offer will be accepted.

Yours faithfully
D. C. GIBBS

[Signature]
Mr John Green
244 Clevedon Road
Epson
New Zealand

NZ HERALD

Offers for IHC complex rejected

The future of the Ranfurly centre for the intellectually handicapped remains uncertain after the two tenders to buy the Auckland property were rejected.

The complex in Epson, a hostel and activities centre, was put up for tender by the Society for the Intellectually Handicapped in a move to get funds for its community-based care programmes.

When tenders closed last week, only two bids had been received and neither was for the complete site, said the national director of IHC, Mr J. B. Munro.

One of those was from a group of parents from the Cornwall branch of the IHC who formed themselves into an incorporated society, Ranfurly Care, and obtained approval for a Housing Corporation loan to buy the main building which includes the residential quarters.

Mr Munro said there were a number of groups outside the tender process who were showing interest. "We wish to talk with them along with the Ranfurly Care group."

Multi-use centre planned for Ranfurly Road complex in Auckland

Parents' bid for hostel accepted by IHC

A group of parents from the Cornwall branch of the IHC have been successful in their bid to buy the Ranfurly Road complex in Epson, Auckland. The IHC has accepted the offer from the Ranfurly Care Society, a group of parents who have formed themselves into an incorporated society. The IHC has agreed to sell the property to the Ranfurly Care Society for a price of \$1.2 million. The IHC has also agreed to provide a loan of \$240,000 to the Ranfurly Care Society to buy the property. The IHC has also agreed to provide a loan of \$240,000 to the Ranfurly Care Society to buy the property. The IHC has also agreed to provide a loan of \$240,000 to the Ranfurly Care Society to buy the property.



The handing over of the Ranfurly Road house keys by Val the IHC Manager to Linda and Jan

Mr Gibbs said that until a couple of years ago the Cornwall branch held the title to the property. They, along with all other branches except Ashburton, had formed an IHC trust to "consolidate property interests" under the parent body.

On Friday the IHC sent a \$220,000 cheque to the Ranfurly Care Society, which it said had been valued at \$1.2 million.

Mr Gibbs said that was clearly an unrealistic valuation. A property developer could split the property into eight sections after paying survey fees of about \$24,000. Each section could fetch between \$30,000 and \$35,000.

It would cost \$200,000 to bring the hostel up to a reasonable standard, because repairs had been neglected, he said.

Last week the national director of IHC, Mr J. B. Munro, said members of the society's prospective board had agreed unanimously that it was their duty to find a higher price than that offered by the Ranfurly Care Society.

Neither he nor the president of IHC, Dr Rodrick Tansie, could be reached for comment last night.

THE FORMATION OF RANFURLY CARE SOCIETY INCORPORATED

Personal recollections by Linda Nelson concerning the establishment of the Ranfurly Care Society

1990

NZC meeting attended by Jan Mitchell who presented a resolution and “quality of service” questionnaire - answered by 50 members. However this was not recorded in their minutes!

September 1990

28 Jan attended the AGM at Waipuna Lodge. The Upper Hutt tabled a remit to sell their site. Del Williams IHC said it was totally unnecessary as properties were never sold without the local branch approval. JB stated “I cannot sign a sale and purchase agreement until I have signed permission from the local branch committee in front of me”.

1991

June 1991

Cornwall AGM discussed further resolutions not to sell Ranfurly.

28 The President Tom Kiely and the Vice President Jan Mitchell of the Cornwall IHC Branch were both overseas so the branch committee delegated me to represent them at the IHC New Zealand Council meeting in Wellington. The IHC meeting’s decision was unanimous, “the property at 52-56 Ranfurly was to be sold even though it was totally against the Cornwall Branch members wishes“. It should be noted that Tom had not received a copy of the Agenda before he left for the UK on 19 June.

July 1991

5 I rang Tom Piggen, Solicitor, for advice on the legal ownership. We suspected the old Auckland Branch may never have been deregistered as he believed there was never a trust deed when the Auckland IHC branch was formed. Unfortunately the Companies Office had lost the relevant information and could neither confirm nor deny that the Auckland Branch was actually deregistered when we split into Cornwall and Central branches.

6 Peter Williams QC was given information for us to seek his advice on how to challenge the NZC decision. He suggested we contact Shieff, Angland, Dew to get a legal opinion of the constitution and the 7 part resolutions. Dr Shieff was contacted and said David Abbot, Solicitor would be the obvious choice as he was very successful in this field.

6 Hilary and Graeme Reid and I visited Sir Robert Muldoon for advice. He was familiar with the situation as Michael Hughes had already sent information to him prior to the IHC meeting. He suggested that he would ring Doug Graham to discuss how they could help and we in turn should contact Doug Graham the Minister of Justice. We did that and his suggestion was to get a Department of Social Welfare (DSW) agreement, form a charity, then DSW would credit IHC for the site that we would run. That way there would be no litigation and tax payer’s legal aid funds would not be wasted with IHC using them to defend the case. Doug Graham rang Graeme Reid to inform him that the then Minister of Social Welfare, Jenny Shipley would contact Ted Gallon DSW to find a solution. He would also ring Dr. R Deane to ask for the facts of the pending sale. He instructed Dr Deane to keep him informed of their plans.

7 On my return from Wellington I immediately contacted associates of the “Society for the Parents Association of the Mentally Handicapped Inc.” and advised them of the IHC resolution. They kindly allowed me to report to members at their AGM venue at May Rd as several of their members were also members of the Cornwall Branch. At the conclusion of their meeting interested parties discussed the repercussions of the pending sale. Members donated \$210 towards expenses that would be incurred in fighting the cause to retain the Ranfurly site. I agreed to take this on board as a challenge! The members also sent many letters and faxes to Ministers to make them aware of the situation.

8 Hilary, Graeme and I visited David Abbott, Solicitor for legal advice as to how to fight IHC’s decision. JB Munroe’s press release and response was in the Dominion Post newspaper today (8 July 1991).

16 Our first meeting of many more with Christine Fletcher who strongly supported us for many years.

17 Marian Galvin who was employed by DSW arranged a meeting with Mike Mills at Community Services Royal Oak office to discuss maximized benefits and funding. We then visited the Walsh Trust for their advice on how to set up a Society or Trust. Which would be the best option?

26 I received a surprise letter from Shieff Angland Dew in regard to a Mr. Bertram George Lamb....

We write with regard to your defamation of our above named client at the meeting of the Cornwall Branch Committee of the NZ Society for the Intellectually Handicapped (Inc) held Monday 22 July 1991.

Mr Lamb was a new committee member and was against everything the Cornwall Branch Committee stood for as he was pushing for IHC to sell the premises. At the meeting I had supposedly said 'Mr Lamb had a vested interest as he had a large contract with IHC'.

The consequence of that was I was being sued for defamation and that Mr. Lamb had every right to claim damages from me. I was instructed to offer in writing an unreserved apology in a form acceptable to Mr. Lamb. Which I did - though I did accept I was asking a question as to where he stood as to his involvement on our Committee but that I was not presenting a statement.

August 1991

- 1 I met with Audrey Young from the New Zealand Herald to explain our plight in the effort to gain more publicity and support as to what was going on.
- 6 We applied to the Registrar of Incorporated Companies for name approval.
- 9 Jan Mitchell, the Cornwall Branch Vice President arrived home a day before the first 'Herald' add appeared advertising the Ranfurly site was up for tender.
- 12 Alister Martin arranged for legal assistance to incorporate our Society and write the Rules. They were completed through Rod Willis at Simpson Grierson Butler White at no cost to the members who are eternally grateful for this early generous donation to their efforts. Alister was also contacting Tom Kiely to try and arrange a meeting with their mutual friend Peter Shearer, the New Zealand Herald Editor.
- 13 Graham and Hilary Reid arranged a meeting at their home for me to meet with the Minister Jenny Shipley and her secretary Bronwyn. En route, the Minister purposely drove past Ranfurly to gain personal knowledge of the situation. Jenny was very receptive to the issue of community placement of people with IH needs and suggested we make an appointment with Christine Fletcher MP for Eden/ Epsom.
- 14 As pre-arranged with Jenny I phoned Genevieve Westcott, 1ZB to talk on radio talkback to Jenny who answered the callers concerns related to choice. We then purchased a copy of the 'News Monitor Services Transcript', to keep as a record the ministers response to my comments

"There is a ground swell in New Zealand against the rigid approach of IHC to give no choice on residential accommodation. I have noted that the Ranfurly House, which was bought by parents, is now up for tender, which is totally against our members' wishes. I just wondered how the Government feels on the magic number of six per site of residents."

In response Jenny Shipley said:

"The issue of community placement of people with IH needs is controversial. IHC is the main provider of service in New Zealand and they have a programme where they are taking people out of institutions and putting them into homes. They have chosen a quite rigid figure of six per house. The Government, while they respect the IHC view on what they would prefer, the Government, in administering the support subsidies, is quite adamant that the subsidy can be used in organisations or institutions larger than the six person. And the Ranfurly House is a good example where, if that were to be formed into a community trust, it could be entitled to the support subsidy and perhaps house between 12 and 15 people, rather than the six that most IHC houses care for."

Using the transcript we sent out, a further questionnaire to members that returned 65 positive replies and only one against. We must have our democratic right. Jenny Shipley wants to see a choice of care for the intellectually disabled from **"village to villa"**. Hilary Reid and I then invited interested members to come to a meeting to be held at my home. We presented to the members a draft set of Rules to be discussed to form an Incorporated Society.

The Department of Social Welfare had approved the Ranfurly site be sold to an organisation which is formed with the objective of its continued use by IH people.

- 19 Meanwhile the Cornwall Committee passed a resolution to spend up to \$5000 on legal action
- 20 We met with David Abbot solicitor with Shieff Angland Dew for his legal opinion on testing IHC's claim of ownership to the property. Could we place an injunction to prevent the sale by IHC? I then met Ted Gallen from Department of Social Welfare Wellington, who was a friend of Graham

and Hilary Reid's, at their home to discuss Jenny Shipley's suggestions and what the Government funding options were including Support Subsidies. IHC have always been bulk funded.

- 25 At a Special Meeting of Cornwall Branch Members they discussed the IHC New Zealand Council decision. **Bert Lamb sent his resignation to the President because he supported the IHC's decision to sell.**
- 27 Tom Kiely met with Jan Mitchell and myself to discuss Michael Hugh's ideas and the pending IHC Special Meeting on Saturday 31 August.
- 30 Audrey Fish, Cornwall Branch IHC's Road Manager resigned.

September 1991

- 5 I met with Sue Stiff of Community Funding Agency to discuss funding and the required criteria.
- 7 I wrote to Jenny Shipley forwarding the questionnaire from 120 IHC members to determine once again, their feelings towards NZC's decision.
- 9 I met with Greg Chappel, journalist, to provide information for a proposed Sunday Star article, which was later published on 15 September.
- 11 We thanked Mr. Willis at Simpson Grierson Butler White for Incorporating our new Society FREE OF CHARGE.
- 14 We met with Martin Stephenson Housing Corporation; to discuss their mortgage requirements in the optimism our tender would be accepted.
- 16 We met with Christine Fletcher to discuss developments to date. She rang Housing Corporation to support the loan proposal.
- 27 Jan Mitchell delivered a proposal to Doug Graham. He rang Christine Fletcher and Martin Stevenson from Housing Corporation on our behalf offering his support. Christine and Doug agreed to meet with Tom Kiely in Wellington the next week. Tom had spent the previous weekend at the IHC AGM and NZC meeting in Wellington.
- 30 Marian Galvin invited me to accompany her to visit Kaurilands Skill Centre residential home and vocational centre at Dargaville. The idea was to obtain information on how they had established their parent based centre.

October 1991

- 3 I visited Christine Fletcher's office for a follow up meeting with the Housing Corporation valuer Glen Lincoln. Glen then came to a meeting at Doug Graham's office along with Jan Mitchell and myself. The valuation was to be ready on the 7th. Doug Graham said there were only three options, walk away, litigate or tender with the help of Housing Corporation. We had previously obtained two walk-by valuations; one from John Dalziel, Bayleys and the other from Chris Barfoot of Barfoot and Thompson.
- 3 The **Ranfurly issue was raised in the "Parliament Caucus"** after several previous meetings discussing the situation with a variety of Ministers. Christine Fletcher rang to say there had been a real shake up and thought Dr. Deane may have got to Doug Graham? She suggested that Peter Kiely, Solicitor, ring Doug Graham for a chat. Christine also suggested more publicity was required at this ninth hour.
- 10 Landcorp tenders closed at 4.00 pm.
- 10 All of us spoke on the Angela De'Audney afternoon radio 'talk back' show that was recorded by Judy Carter to keep as a record of the conversations.
At 3.40 pm, we took our tender into Landcorp offering \$665,000.
- 15 Tom Kiely recorded a telephone conversation with JB Munroe IHC.
- 18 There was a 'Three o'clock Meeting' with David Grove, Landcorp Real Estate, Ron Major, Doug Bullen IHC property division, John Green, Jan Mitchell, myself and my company solicitor John Radley of Ellis Gould to negotiate our tender.

Cont'd

John Radley was so incensed by the way we were treated by the IHC personnel that he agreed to join our Society. He became the first Chairman of Trustees.

I met with Liz O'Hagan a financial planner. She advised us to apply to the ASB Trust and would arrange to send us the application forms.

19 We met Marian Galvin at Jan Mitchells to discuss VOSP (Activity Centre) funding.

23 Rang Radio IZB to advise them "tenders were called", we have since been advised ours was the highest but not high enough. IHC were now having discussions with property developers and were waiting to see a letter of intent. We had submitted a very fair tender yet the developers would not go up front with a tender."

24 **We made the IZB headline morning news. In response reporters rang J B Munro in Wellington to ask him why they had not accepted our tender.**

25 **Ian Potter Housing Corp, confirmed that they would give a tentative loan approval up to the sum of \$630,000.**

John Radley sent a fax to Christine Fletcher as she was going to ring JB Munroe and Doug Bullen the IHC Property Manager.

29 IHC Properties Board Meeting.

30 Jenny Woods of 1ZB rang me at home to give me a transcript of JB's press release. I sent a copy to Christine Fletcher at Parliament. Spent time at Jan's with Chas, Des and Judy Carter.

31 I spoke to Angela D'Audney on the talk back show. Then John Cordrey, 1ZB Business Hour, rang home for an interview on his show. Christine Fletcher gave a statement to 1ZB's Jenny Woods. Audrey Young from the Herald agreed to photograph John Green's banner that he had put up in the park in front of Ranfurly Care.

November 1991

3 Tom and Nonie Kiely left for Germany. Tom had recorded a copy of a conversation with Ron Major that we took into John Radley.

6 Both the New Zealand Herald and Bays and Remuera Times Vol. 5, no. 42 ran a front page article "IHC Hostel Faces Closure" showing a picture of the home with the banner "Ranfurly belongs to IHC people. Keep Developers out" also including a photo of Jan and John Green. John Green had hung the banner in the park. In brief, the article stated that the newly formed Ranfurly Care Society had put in a tender that was not accepted.

6 May Harvey rang me at home after hearing the talkback show to pledge \$30,000
Chas Watters rang the 1ZB talkback show.
John Radley had visited Norman Shieff to consult with him over the current situation.

7 Simpson Grierson Butler White advised me that our Society was incorporated and the rules now registered.

John Radley rang to say he had sent a letter to IHC to arrange a meeting with their Property Board. Their response was that they were putting it on the market. John told them he had been having discussions with Norman Shieff and would meet them on the court steps. They then accepted our offer. Well done John!!

8 There was an article in the New Zealand Herald from the Minister Doug Graham, condemning IHC's handling of the dispute.

10 An informal meeting was held in the Ranfurly Hall attended by Christine Fletcher, John Radley and 35 interested friends.

We had spent 130 days to inspire the community to help us achieve the ownership of the Ranfurly Road site.

Alister Martin was trying to find out who the Lottery Board Trustees were.
1ZB rang to organise a morning interview.

- 11 I went with Chas Watters to a meeting with Simpson Grierson to discuss the Constitution.
- 12 John Green and I attended a 3 day course at Manukau Polytech on Advocacy.
- 13 Jan and I met May Harvey for coffee at her home. What a beautiful generous lady!
- 15 John Radley confirmed Deloitte Haskins & Sells are working with IRD to structure the transaction as zero rated GST.
- 18 Housing Corporation advised that a maximum loan of \$604,485, which included a loan fee of \$5,985, has been approved. The overwhelming generosity of members and the sympathetic public raised sufficient funds for the deposit.
- 19 We had a final meeting at Simpson Butler White to change the constitution with John Radley, Alison Adams, Brien Woolworth, Bernadette Jew, Bayard Ralph, Jan and myself.
- 20 Tom and Nonie arrived back from Germany.
- 21 Bernadette designed the letter to members re constitution changes.
- 25 I spent the day meeting and networking with local community groups.
- 27 John Radley and Ross Green visited Ian Potter and Martin Stevenson at Housing Corporation to extend the second part of the mortgage to two years.

December 1991

- 3 Ross Green and the new trustee Lynne Trafford called to visit Ranfurly.
- 4 I visited John Lister, CEO of Crippled Children Society, for advice on the services of the Disability sector.
- 11 John Radley our acting Solicitor of Ellis Gould sent the deposit of \$50,000 to IHC.
- 15 The First Special General Meeting of the new Society was held and attended by thirty two family members in order to approve amendments to the newly formed Rules of the Society kindly prepared without cost by Simpson, Grierson, Butler White and organised by Mr. Martin.
- 17 John Hanning IHC Solicitor accepted John Radley's agreement for the sale and purchase of the Ranfurly Rd property at the agreed price of \$665,000.
- 18 Met with Sue Stiff, Department of Social Welfare, an outreach worker, re: the important commodity of funding.
- 19 A Meeting was held to elect casual trustee officers so that legal documents could be signed.

1992

February 1992

- 2 The Residential Home was opened starting with five residents.
- 4 Simpson Grierson Butler White confirmed the amended rules had been registered in the Companies Office.
- 10 Architect David Stringer completed his evaluation report for the ASB application to refurbish the bathrooms.
- 10 Our friends Chas and Colleen Watters have already given a \$25,000 donation towards the purchase deposit. Today they forwarded another cheque of \$25,000 loan, interest free until the 31/8/92 as reserve funds to get started.
- 14 IRD acknowledged the copy of the rules of the Society by approving the Society as a charitable organisation. We were also notified of our IRD and GST numbers.
- 19 \$950 the first donation of many was given by the Women's Auxiliary Group – thanks to Ursula Lampitt and her many friends.
- 24 Jan and I interviewed staff applicants at Jan Mitchell's home.

- 26 The Country & Western started holding their Club Nights at the Ranfurly Hall – the beginning of a great relationship
- 28 Paul Looke arranged that the Justice Department PD workers start working on a weekly basis supervised by Laurie Griffith – an amazing man who did so much for Ranfurly in those early days. The property building and grounds were very rundown and quite obviously no repairs and maintenance had been done for many years.

March 1992

- 14 Nonie Kiely organised a jumble sale at St Georges Church raising over \$1000.
- 18 We received \$8250 to refurbish the lounge donated from Hilda Ramsey's daughter, Pauline.
- 30 The Activity Centre officially opens.

April 1992

- 1 Justice Dept PD workers started working on a weekly basis supervised by Laurie Griffith
- 11 The Whitford Stable Stomp, friends of Nonie's, raised \$1600.
- 12 The fundraising concert organised by Hilary Reid at Diocesan raised \$2000.

May 1992

- 7 Community Funding Agency approved the registration of 21 people in the residential home.
- 27 Nonie Kiely organised a bridge party raising \$740.

June 1992

- 19 John Lee, Minister of Internal Affairs, visited with Christine Fletcher.
- 26 The Jaycees held a Disco and Pot Luck dinner.

August 1992

- 9 Eden Epsom Jaycees organised a fund raising film evening at the Berkeley, showing 'City of Joy', and raised \$1000

- 12 A dish washer was purchased for the home.
- 14 Thanks to Alister Martin, the Fisher Trust donated \$15,000 to purchase our first vehicle, the Toyota Hiace.
- 14 John Luxton the Minister of Housing visited Ranfurly along with Christine Fletcher.
- 25 The ASB Charitable Trust donated \$30,368 to complete the Residential Home refurbishment
- 25 The ASB Charitable Trust donated \$56,000 to refurbish the Activity Centre
- 27 Ranfurly Care Annual General Meeting.

October 1992

- 3 **Official Opening by the Mayoress Colleen Mills and Eden MP Christine Fletcher in conjunction with the Eden Epsom Jaycees Gala that raised over \$5000.**

December

- 21 Lottery Board Grant approved of \$16,875 for Activity Centre wages.



Above: Chas Watters, Chris Fletcher, John Radley, John Lee, Jan Mitchell and Linda Nelson

There are so many other smaller donations made by a variety of individuals, groups and Trusts – too many in fact to list here. We fully appreciate the efforts made by a number of people who may not be mentioned in these notes. Everyone contributed to make our dream materialize into reality. This is by no means a complete history and I am sure others could keep contributing. Perhaps this and other contributions could form a part of a more formal history of the Ranfurly Care success story!



Above a photo taken by Linda at an informal meeting Sunday the 10 November 1991

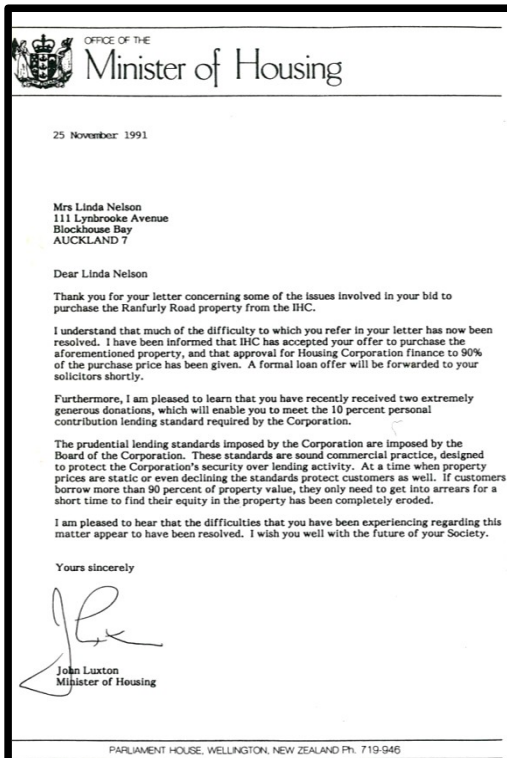
This meeting was attended by thirty two interested families held on 10 November 1991 chaired by the newly appointed President John Green, I reported Ranfurly was now registered as an Incorporated Society (applied for by twenty one foundation members) with Charitable Status on 13 September 1991. Julie Cook organised the framing of the original 'Incorporation of the Society' document which contains a list of the 21 members. This document has now been framed and is hanging in the residents lounge as a reminder of the Society's beginnings

On 10 November 130 days had passed since the I.H.C. resolution to sell the property was passed on 28 June 1991.

18/11/1991 I received a letter from Housing Corporation re the loans put in place enabling us to purchase the property.....

We are pleased to advise that a maximum loan of \$604,485.00 which includes a loan application fee of \$5985.00 has been approved to allow the Society to purchase the above named property.

A first mortgage of \$431,775.00 at 7.00% and a second mortgage of \$172,710.00 at 11.4%.



On the 25/11/1991 we received a very welcomed letter from the then Minister of Housing John Luxton.

The 'First Ranfurly Special General Meeting' was held on 15 December 1991 attended by thirty two family members in order to make changes to the newly formed Rules of the Society kindly prepared at no cost by Simpson, Grierson, Butler White organised by Mr. Martin.

Through Graeme Reid's initial introduction some Government MPs of 1991 supported our aspirations by taking appropriate actions to remove the obstacles and allow us to repurchase the property from I.H.C.

They were: Christine Fletcher, MP who later assisted us as in her capacity as the Mayor of Auckland, and also in time became our patron, Dame Jenny Shipley, Sir Douglas Graham, and Sir Rob Muldoon. In addition we must also acknowledge the many people who assisted and made Ranfurly possible. They were to name a few: John Radley solicitor, Greg Rathbun our accountant, the Woman's Auxiliary, Eden Epsom Jaycees, Angela D'Audney and 1ZB, and the continued support of all the Executive and Society Members.

Speeches from the official opening of the Ranfurly Care Ranfurly Road site

3 October 1992

Opening of the Ranfurly Care Centre

Jan Mitchell President of Ranfurly Care Society Inc.

It gives me great pleasure to introduce our two special guests who have kindly joined us for our official opening ceremony.

The Mayoress, Mrs. Colleen Mills, Nonie Kiely's friend has supported us from the time we first approached her, when she readily agreed to become our patron.

Our other guest, our local MP, Mrs. Christine Fletcher, gave us wonderful support in and out of caucus right from the very beginning, when we were struggling to gain the property and she has continued to help us ever since.

When we took over the running of Ranfurly in February we got more than our property. We bought ourselves the right to make our own decisions, both individually and collectively, and this freedom is what we have all been fighting for. We are committed to giving our people the most fulfilling and interesting life possible without jeopardising the protection we all want for them.

Since we started we have had wonderful support from all our friends in the wider community. I want to particularly thank the Eden-Epsom Jaycees for all the incredible organisation that has gone into today as well as the Country and Western Group for their wonderful on-going support and friendship for our people.

And now I will ask our Patron to officially open Ranfurly House



Mrs. Colleen Mills

Mayoress of Auckland, Patron of Ranfurly Care Society Inc.

Mr. Tony Scarborough (President Eden-Epsom Jaycees); Mrs. Linda Nelson (Manager Ranfurly Centre); Mrs. Christine Fletcher: Residents and their Families; Friends and Supporters of the Centre; Ladies and Gentlemen.

I am delighted to see so many here today.

The official opening of the Ranfurly Centre is a very special day for residents of the centre and their families and for members and supporters of the Ranfurly Care Society.

It has not been easy, but the Ranfurly Care Centre is now up and running. We can with great pride declare it officially open.

As Mayoress of Auckland City, I am honoured to be associated with the work of the Ranfurly Care Society. I agreed to take on the role of Patron of the Society when I learned of the tremendous effort members had put into retaining the Ranfurly Centre here in Epsom.

Since then I have experienced for myself the wonderful spirit that now exists in the Centre.

The commitment staff, residents, families and supporters of the society share is demonstrated in everything that happens here.

It means that when something is needed, there is somebody there to contribute – whether it be making new curtains for lounge, donating goods for a stall, providing professional nursing services free of charge, or taking residents on an outing.

I wholeheartedly endorse the Society's work in the community and I'm delighted to see so many of you here supporting the Centre today. A special thanks to Eden-Epsom Jaycees for organising today's gala.

I'd now like to call on Mrs. Christine Fletcher MP to address you. Christine is a powerful advocate for the Centre in its establishment period and continues to provide invaluable support.

On behalf of the Society I'd like to thank Christine for her contribution to the Ranfurly Care and Activity Centre and call on her to say a few words.

Mrs. Christine Fletcher Member of Parliament

Good Afternoon to everyone involved in the extended family of Ranfurly Care and a special welcome to our Patron Coleen Mills and the Eden- Epsom Jaycees who have organised the celebrations here today.

I want to pay a special tribute to Linda Nelson for first bringing to my attention her dream for Ranfurly Care Society when it was still the Cornwall Branch of IHC and asking me to become involved.

Before I came here this morning I popped into the Electorate Office to go over the old files and records that I hold on Ranfurly to prepare this little speech. There was quite an extraordinary amount of correspondence and records on file here perhaps more than any other constituency matter that I have been involved with and it was a strong reminder to me just what a battle it was - to quote Alister Martins own words "for Ranfurly to win against the machinations of those who were determined to see this splendid complex become a developers profit centre".

It was a superhuman effort by everyone involved, the sort of effort that is only made when driven by a deep conviction, an absolute certainty in the correctness to the course of action.

The principles that guided and motivated those involved were based on the absolute belief in the rights to freedom of choice and also to the rights of parents of disabled people and families with special needs to have a key decision making role in every decision affecting the lives of their family members.

And for everyone who now lives at Ranfurly and for the 25 or so people that come each day to the Activity Centre and for all of their friends and family members and for the happiness, love and fun that is shared together here, Ranfurly represents a victory over bureaucracy and a success for decision making at community level. People talk of community based care. Ranfurly to my mind is a good example of balanced co operative community based care.

I salute all of the families, the caregivers, the community service organisation, the people at 1ZB, everyone in Eden and Auckland that has given to or been involved in Ranfurly Care Society's organisation for their determination, their commitment and dedication for bringing about a dream today, but remind them the battle is not yet fully won and Ranfurly must continue to receive our ongoing support.

I take great pleasure in being part of the celebrations today.

Ranfurly holds a very special place in my heart. It embodies the family values I believe in and intend to give my ongoing support and commend this worthy project to you.

Hostel now happy home a year on

By AUDREY YOUNG

A group of intellectually handicapped people, their families and supporters, held a modest celebration in Auckland yesterday, marking one year of "home ownership."

Home is the Ranfurly centre in Epsom, formerly a hostel owned by the Society for the Intellectually Handicapped, which was bought by members of the society's Cornwall branch.

Just three people lived in the dilapidated hostel at the time of the \$665,000 purchase, which was backed by a 30-year, \$600,000 loan from the Housing Corporation.

With help from the Justice Department's periodic detention programme, the place has been spruced up and now has 12 permanent intellectually handicapped residents.

It also caters for up to three short-stay visitors.

A special afternoon tea was held yesterday by the parents and supporters who formed the Ranfurly Care Society to buy and run the home and who are delighted with its revival.

One of the parents, who is now the full-time manager, Linda Nelson, says it has been an amazing year.

Seven of the 12 residents came from IHC community houses, said Linda Nelson.

Ranfurly Care Society also runs an activity centre during the day which is attended by about 20 people other than Ranfurly residents.

Part of their day is spent making crafts for a shop.

Linda Nelson said Ranfurly survives financially through the income from the residents' allowances, and donations.

The latest and largest, \$258,000 from an organisation that does not want to be named, has been earmarked to upgrade the kitchen and bathrooms, replace the roof and refurbish a hall that was burned in 1989.



HANDY HANDCRAFTS: Linda Nelson and the residents of Ranfurly House show the impressive handicrafts that will be on sale at Saturday's Gala.



Gala promises fun for all

Epsom's Ranfurly Care Society will be holding its official opening this Saturday with a fundraising gala.

There will be free entertainment all day with five different bands playing jazz, pipe, blue grass and country and western.

The gala will combine all the traditional aspects of a good old fashioned fair.

Linda Nelson, manager of Ranfurly Care, says the society relies on fundraising activities and donations from local businesses.

Funds from the gala will go towards improving the Ranfurly Care facilities, particularly the activities centre where residents spend their days.

Ranfurly House in Ranfurly Rd Epsom, was built 20 years ago to provide a home for intellectually handicapped people run by IHC.

Parents of IH residents banded together to buy the house once the IHC put it up for tender. They formed the Ranfurly Care Society and have been operating independently from the IHC for the past nine months.

"We have had a tremendous amount of support from the community. Local businesses have generously donated goods which will be auctioned at the gala on Saturday, says Mrs Nelson.

Gala day attractions also include a jumble sale, plant stalls, china stalls, cakes and sweets, a lucky dip, quick-fire raffles and a charity auction.

Hand-made animals and toys will also be on sale.

CENTRAL LEADER 28.8.96

News

PM's wife late for work

By DARREL MAGER

Joan Bolger, the wife of the Prime Minister Jim, went to Epsom's Ranfurly Care Society last week to see residents at work.

Unfortunately, she was beaten by lunch.

Staff hoped Mrs Bolger could see the intellectually handicapped residents taking part in their regular cooking and art classes.

"But unfortunately she was delayed and got here around lunch-time," says executive society member Nonie Kiely. "Our people, being creatures of habit, had to have their lunch, so she didn't get to see them working."

Some residents did take time out to show Mrs Bolger pictures of society outings.

"We are dedicated to



enhancing the life of mentally handicapped people. We've only been going for four years and she [Mrs Bolger] visited because she heard of our success in getting our peo-

ple to become more independent," says Ms Kiely.

Mrs Bolger was presented with a basket of gifts made by the society's residents.

● ABOVE — THAT'S YOU: Joan Bolger is shown photos of Ranfurly Care Society outings by support worker George Butler and resident Gerald Kiely.

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Bus load of fun

Ranfurly Care residents prepare to take a test drive with trustee Alister Martin in their new minibus. Pictured outside the bus is John Seabrook of Greenlane Toyota who handed over the keys. The bus was bought with help from the Lou and Iris Charitable Trust.

Ranfurly Care in Epsom is home to 12 intellectually disabled young people and adults. It is also a centre for social activity for 20 more people living in the community.

The complex, on the corner of Manukau Rd, was bought by parents who were concerned at IHC plans to sell the building.

"The new minibus will mean more outings and events, especially over summer," says Mr Martin.

It will take the pressure off parents and allow Ranfurly Care to be more flexible and go on more spontaneous trips.

"For instance we have been planning a day trip to Waiwera for months."

OVER THE YEARS from the early Newsletters 1992–1995 A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE

4 March 1992

A Monster jumble sale which is to take place on Saturday 14 March at 9.00 am is to be held at Ranfurly Road by the public reserve. When we took over Ranfurly Home we inherited an 'Opportunity Shop' full of second hand clothing, books, etc.

The Mayoress of Auckland, Mrs. Colleen Mills has visited our home and consented to be our Patroness. She has also attended an informal morning tea with a group of friends who are hoping will be hosting fundraising activities in the near future.

The Eden/Epsom Jaycees visited the site on Sunday 21 March and propose adopting us as their project for the year. It would appear that their 'project' will be restoration of either the hall or vocational centre. Their help will be gratefully accepted.

Epsom Girls Grammar visited to try to set in motion and implement a 2-hour weekly course – social integration with people who are intellectually challenged.

Paul Lock from the Justice Department sent two teams of PD workers who have done an excellent job (1) cleaning out the hall and (2) clearing the grounds,

Chas Watters is lending Ranfurly Care a 1989 Toyota Corolla until August which will help us with transport, many thanks to Chas for this generous gesture.

Keep Sunday 12 April free as the soprano Patricia Swift is giving a concert for 150 people at the Diocesan Music Centre. There will be musical items, wine and nibbles between 5 to 7 pm. This is a fund-raising function for Ranfurly, being arranged by Hilary Reid. Thank you Hilary for this event.

Country and Western Club are holding a benefit concert for Ranfurly Care on Wednesday 11 March at Manukau Intermediate School at 7.30 pm. They would appreciate as many as possible attending so come along and bring your friends.

There will be a CPR evening held at Ranfurly in the near future. Are you interested in attending and making this an educational and social evening?

We are very busy setting up the Vocational Centre to start on 1 April this year. You will receive further correspondence relating to this.

8 March 1992

The Country and Western Music Club entertained and provided a barbecue dinner. Some of our friends from the I.H.C. community homes joined us, so it was very lively. Judy Carter took several photographs, so if you are interested in copies, you can see them on our notice board. Earlier the same day a group went to the Teddy Bears Picnic held in the Domain for an entertaining afternoon.

11 March 1992

Our friends from the Onehunga Country and Western Club held a concert to benefit us. The proceeds amounted to \$322.70 which was presented to Bobbie. Wonderful! Bobbie and Jeff finished off the evening with a song, How much is that doggy in the window?

A concert will be held on April 12th at 5.00pm - 7.00 pm at the Music Centre Diocesan School Margot St/Clyde St. The soprano is Patricia Swift well known in Auckland music circles and a past pupil of Dame Mary Leo. Tickets can be purchased from Ranfurly Care or Hilary.

24 March 1992

Once the building has been thoroughly cleaned on Monday 30 March we officially start our vocational service in the ex I.H.C. vocational centre. A team of ten periodic detention workers have been working here under supervision on a regular basis. We are very grateful to the Justice Department for their valuable contribution in the restoration of our site. They are returning on Friday to clean and paint the lounge and vocational centre. Leon Sparrow has been appointed as the Activity Centre Coordinator.

A very successful Jumble Sale was held on Saturday 14 March. The day dawned bright and sunny and at 6.30am helpers and five volunteers from Eden/Epsom Jaycees set up the trestles kindly loaned by St. George's Church, and we were almost ready for the first customer who arrived about 7.16 am, although our sale was advertised to start at 9.00 am!

As well as being a fundraising event another purpose of the sale was to clear the second hand clothing and junk from the I.H.C. Opportunity Shop which was part of the IHC hostel. It had been set up in the custom built crèche.... an area we hope to return to its original purpose in the future.

Over \$1,000 was raised which was great considering everything sold cheaply in small denominations. It was lovely to see the involvement of parent/friends of our Ranfurly Care Family! Everyone worked hard and there was such a good spirit of friendship and willingness to get behind our fund raising function. Special thanks to our Country and Western friends who ran successful 'Sausage sizzle' and to neighbouring business people who donated goods to raffle and to Ma Thompson, Pat Langdon and Thelma Woodward who spent many hours every day in the week prior to the sale. Thanks to everybody.



12 May 1992

Firstly, welcome to our three new residents, Maureen Jackson, Peter Walker and Lex Rimmer. All have settled in very well making friends and participating in a variety of activities. We have also enjoyed having Mervyn Hoy Fong, Anne Johnston and Christopher Martin using our alternative care.

If anyone would like to pop in to have a cup of tea and see the newly furnished lounge you'd all be very welcome. Thanks to the generosity of our dear deceased friend Mrs. Ramsey, who gifted funds in memory of her daughter Celia. We have been able to purchase new dining room chairs, tables and a sideboard, three lounge sofas with four matching chairs. There were just enough funds to buy fire retardant curtains which have been made by a member of the Committee, Florence. The recently installed fire place has completed the refurbishing.

Due to the generosity of C.A.T.S. (Jim Fitzpatrick Company) we now have a telephone system that links the Residential House and Activity Centre. There are two lines 630 3010 and 631 5030, with six extensions. The Special Needs Telecom offer allows our calls to be charged at the residential rate, a bonus for our budgeting. The only major problem at the moment is the leaking roof. Cross your fingers that our application to the ASB Trust will be favourably considered.

The Jaycees are promoting a Wine and Cheese and Film evening on 24 May at Mission Bay Berkley Theatre. We need to sell 420 tickets. Jean Merrington is the organizer and will contact us as soon as we know the selected film title. Please ask your friends to come to make this evening a success. Telephone Linda for further details.

15 July 1992

We have wonderful support from our friends the Jaycees. Jan and I met most of the chapter when we

were invited to dinner to speak about the history of Ranfurly and what it is like to be the parent of a profoundly handicapped person. Since then I have been to two meetings planning the Gala to be held on 26 September, the proceeds going to Ranfurly Care. We plan an old fashioned Gala to be held in conjunction with our official opening day on the Ranfurly and Marivare Reserve sites.

Part of the plans include live stage entertainment, competitions, catering for refreshments, a jumble sale, coconut shies, tug of war, quick fire raffles, and an auction to finish. If anyone has connections who would be able to help with goods for the raffles, food for catering, goods to sell etc. we would be eternally grateful for any information.

The Jaycees have recently attacked a large pine tree at my home which has given Ranfurly firewood and provided them with a source of funds by selling it by the trailer load. Their ingenuity and fellowship is a pleasure to be part of.

The other activity that we shared together was a disco held in the Activity Centre on 26 June. It was wonderful to see the young Jaycees dancing with our people. It was a night which those who attended will take a long time to forget. Officially we were meant to be planning the old fashioned gala, instead it was all play and no work.

Congratulations to Mr. P J Jew who received an M.B.E. in the Queen's Birthday Honours for his years of service in our beautiful city parks.

Eden-Epsom Jaycee Inc

Movie Premiere

Sunday 9 August Berkeley Theatre, Mission Bay – Wine and Cheese Movie 5.40pm - \$10 per ticket
Proceeds to Ranfurly Care and Eden- Epsom Jaycee

15 September 1992



This is a very busy time with our AGM on the 27th September and the Gala and our Official Opening on 3rd October. TWO dates NOT to be forgotten.

For those of you who have been overseas mailing dates to meet our Christmas cards are available from Nonie Kiely and the office. We have five designs available in individual packets of 10 and also in mixed packets. Each packet sells for \$6.00. We have 15,000 cards to sell. Be quick, they are going fast!

As you come in the gate you will notice our lovely awning over the 'Shoppe'. We plan to be in business from the gala day onwards. Definitely the place for Christmas gifts!

An update on our Community Constable, Deklan Ryan. His office is all furnished with the telephone installed as we are expecting him to move in very shortly. We are looking forward to having Deklan on the premises. This is a further step towards integrating Ranfurly to be part of the community.

Since we moved in the dishwasher has required frequent resuscitation. In August resuscitation became unsuccessful and it went to its final resting place. We are now proud owners of a very efficient new Vulcan Dishwasher being enjoyed by all the residents and staff.

The film premier of 'The City of Joy' that many of you enjoyed benefited us by \$1,000. Thank you all for your help.

The Hillary Commission recently donated \$2,000 to the Activity Centre for equipment. We are enjoying the planning of the spending this to get the very best value for our money.

In August we received a very exciting gift from the Fisher Trust in the form of \$15,000 to buy a vehicle for transporting our people to their various activities. Alister Martin went shopping and found a 15 seater 1986 Toyota diesel van with standing height interior which meets with everyone's approval. It is already bringing great joy to our people. Alister Martin deserves a 'big thank you' as without his help this might never have happened.

December 1992

We are planning a summer holiday for our people in the New Year. On 5 January Maureen, Tasha, Mark and Selwyn are going away with Margaret Whitta for 7 days touring the Rotorua and surrounding areas. The itinerary sounds fantastic and I am sure they will all come home for a rest. Mrs. Lampitt and Dougie are planning to go on yet another Margaret Whitta holiday.

Speaking of Mrs. Lampitt this is an opportune time to thank her together with her group of friends for their tireless work, street sales and general fund raising throughout the year. A little bird has tweeted to me that these ladies have been negotiating with Father Christmas who will have a gift for all our Activity Centre people. They are also planning to provide afternoon tea.

Our thanks also to Nonie Kiely and all her helpers for selling our Christmas cards. There are still plenty left so please don't hesitate to come and get yours!

The official opening of the Epsom Community Constables office was held on a wet Sunday afternoon. The Minister of Justice, Doug Graham assisted and Christine Fletcher officiated. Once the formalities were over everyone enjoyed a delicious BBQ provided by the Eden/Epsom Lions.

Dear Friends

As 1992 draws to a close we are all entitled to feel a great deal of satisfaction with the achievements of our society in the last year. Every member without exception has contributed to our success and we can all feel very proud of our property and the happy optimistic atmosphere it has.

Your Trustees and Committee members have worked tirelessly raising funds and organising the refurbishments with great success. The staff headed by our one in a million manager, have given us wonderful team of dedicated friends for our residents and those who enjoy our day programmes, and as for those who live at Ranfurly or attend the programmes, well they are such happy 'fun' people that they have given us all much more than we have given them

Merry Xmas

Jan Mitchell

President

On Saturday 14 November the day dawned fine for staff member Leon and his bride Jane's wedding.

There was great excitement at Ranfurly House as everyone dressed in their best to greet the newlyweds and to have a photo taken with them. The residents were thrilled with the parcels of sweets that Jan and Leon had wrapped for each one of them. In return our people showered them very liberally with rice. Leon and Jane beat a retreat to their reception which was held in the beautifully transformed Activity Centre. Welcome home to Leon's mum who returned from Canada in time for the wedding.

Now to more mundane matters. you will be interested to know that Total Mobility has been transferred from Land Transport to A.R.C. It will take some months to affect the changeover.

Our interview with the Select Committee relating to our submission on the Health and Disability Bill went well. The panel included Sonia Davis and our friend Christine Fletcher.

On 19 December 1992 Gerard Kiely's brother Bernard will be ordained in St. Patrick's Cathedral as a priest. He will be known as Father Bernard. All the Kiely family will be participating in this great time of joy and rejoicing. Gerard made his first communion last week and is very excited about the celebration.



30 April 1993

As Bobbie one of our residents always quotes "There's never a dull moment" which is quite an understatement.

There has been a lot of activity with the removal of the old hall roof and the replacement. At times it seemed we were in outer space with all the workers in white space suits and masks. Last Friday the last of the interior walls to be taken down were removed by the PD workers.

With them went the phone lines which were thought to have been re routed – they hadn't! Also we needed a plumber in a hurry when the old toilets were removedwater.....water everywhere and not a drop to drink. We have a very tolerant adaptable staff! While this was going on the burglars were busy at my home clearing out a lot of my possessions. What a day! To return to the hall, we are now awaiting the glaziers and the carpenters. Our dreams are becoming a reality. We are planning a big concert and opening for the hall. This is being planned with great enthusiasm by the drama and music therapists who hold weekly programs in the Activity Centre. There have been several groups interested in using the hall including Special Olympics for a joint gymnasium i.e. sharing equipment and resources, and the Jaycees for a disco, among other inquiries.

A Progress Report on the Ranfurly Road Residence

The oak tree has been taken down in the last few days. The architect feels confident to be quoted that the 'burnt out hall' will be completed in four to six weeks; the home's new roof will be replaced within six weeks. The bathroom renovations in twelve weeks and the kitchen in eighteen weeks. We had hoped it would be in summer to avoid extra mess due to weather conditions.

Part of our gala money has been used to install a Masport Fire Place which many would have seen when they attended our General meeting on 18 April.

Our sincere thanks to Graham Reid who gave a very interesting insight speech on the international picture of the intellectually disabled world. Graham is one of ten council members of the International League of Societies for Persons with Mental Handicap and Coordinator of Activities against Abuse which may be legal, verbal or physical. The league was founded in 1960 with their paper emanating from their society, being presently translated into sixteen languages. In 1992 there were 62 National Societies in 59 countries. The organisation speaks for forty million people with a mental handicap: their league members sharing their knowledge and experience. Graham is New Zealand's representative who travels overseas to attend the meetings. Everyone left the meeting in high spirits as all our news was positive.

Coming up to Easter we took the opportunity to organise two raffles. One was some special Easter confectionery and the other an Easter Bunny with a basket of eggs. Thank you Nonie and Florence.

On 14 April the Ladies Auxiliary held an auction from which we received \$320. These fund raising events have made it possible to purchase a water cooler for the Activity Centre which is already proving to be popular.

We have been helping various groups in the North Shore, Papatoetoe and Henderson who are establishing private trust homes. Soon we plan to involve ourselves in establishing a network society to provide a united forum to strengthen our power of negotiation for future funding and facilities.

There are four St. Cuthbert girls who visit our home once a week to talk or walk with the residents as part of their Duke of Edinburgh awards. It is very rewarding to see how quickly they have relaxed and become friends to our people.

Steve and Max have been involved in running team building courses for our staff. On the whole the staff have enjoyed the two courses and there is more planned.

I would like to introduce you to our three new residential staff, Sue Owens, Jeanette Baalbergen and Heather Mcsweeney. They bring with them a variety of skills from which we will all benefit.



Activity Centre Happenings

In March most of our people were able to go to Manly to stay for four days in the Martin family holiday house. There were three groups each with two members of staff. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves with many and varied activities. They all want to say a very special thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Martin.

Indoor bowls is becoming popular and Anne Johnston is doing very well. She came home last week with a second place ribbon. This is a further involvement with the Special Olympics.

Since our last letter we have had some more staff changes. Gordon Ham has left to work with the Area Health Board but we are fortunate to have retained his pottery skills on a part time basis. Jane Doogan has left to join the staff of Telecom. Currently we are interviewing to fill these two posts. Jack Lawrence

is helping on a relieving basis at present and we are also grateful to our volunteers Tina and the two Epsom Grammar girls. This saw the end of the 1992 - the following page commences as August 1993.

The good news is that we have nearly spent all last year's grant of \$30,368 received from the ASB Trust. By provided floor coverings in the home and safety glass glazing of the hall windows. The ASB Trust is truly our 'Guardian Angel' who has made the impossible- possible for our people.

We have had many visitors and tradesman onsite, including roofers, Telecom, concrete cutters, painters, plumbers, plasterers, tillers, electricians, the architect, TV aerial contractor and fire protection services.

Stapleton's finally completed the new roofs on 30 June. The builders started on 28 May finally leaving the site on 16 August – 8 weeks of total disruption! There are still a lot of small jobs to be done - for example there are no toilet roll holders or towel rails. Our staff have been real gems as obviously working conditions have been far from ideal! At most times we only had two functional bathrooms. I can only imagine what it will be like when we start the alterations to the kitchen in the near future. We will be in the fortunate position of being able to use the Activity Centre kitchen, though I am sure our people would be perfectly happy with fish and chips for a week!

Every Friday PD Workers from the Justice Dept. under careful supervision of Laurie Griffith continue to bring their wide-ranging skills to Ranfurly. We have benefited from vast quantities of kindling firewood, cleaning and painting, plastering, carpentry, gardening, baking, window cleaning, vacuuming (cleaning up after builders) moving furniture, and even breaking and entering a vehicle under instruction, (Anne Johnston CSM from IHC) had locked her keys in the car!

Apart from structural changes we have now gone another step forward in refurbishing the front lounge. The cane suite now has comfortable covered cushions and there are pleasant green chintz curtains at the windows, thanks to Florence. With the new carpet it will be a quiet corner to entertain friends.

With Nonie Kiely's good work we have got 100 chairs for the hall on order at a very fair price from McGreals. These should be in use at our coming production.

Before we started the alterations we invited Judith Bassett a member of the ASB Trust, to visit us to see 'before' the alterations planning to invite her for a return visit when all is complete to see the 'after'. During the course of conversation the floor coverings came up and Judith Bassett advised us to apply to the TRUST. As I have already told you the application proved successful.

Now for some not so good news. About two weeks ago the Community Constable volunteer told us that there was water coming from beneath the oak tree. This proved to be rather like a small spring. Our friendly plumber had a wee look and in the course of a watery treasure hunt we made a number of small holes which joined one larger hole. It took several days to find the source as the council water and drainage plans are a myth. It finally turned out to be the fire main and for its whole length to the building it was in total decay. This meant we were without sprinklers so we had a visit from the fire department to check us out. It was all quite a saga but except for concrete it is all back together again with a cost of about \$20,000. I wish to thank the Community Constable and his staff for their patience and tolerance throughout this time.

On 17 May Dr. Mike Cussen lost his fight with cancer. He passed away with his family around him, including his new granddaughter. His funeral at St Mary's revealed the wide circle of friends from many walks of life this quiet unassuming man had. We all wondered how we would find another doctor to take his place however Mike had chosen a wonderful person from his practice in Dr Tim Akroyd who is a caring family doctor and has rapidly become our friend.

There have been three fundraising events since the last. There were two street stalls in Newmarket run by the Ladies Auxiliary which raised \$503 and \$320: Phyl Sheffield organised a bridge party which raised \$1,790.50.

Our sincere thanks to these wonderful people.

Elizabeth Grigor is attending Activity Centre on a part time basis. Up to now her sister Mary Fenton has been staying with her and has been a wonderful help in sewing costumes for the drama. It is a small world when I recall family doctor whom they continued to see even when they that Elizabeth's father Dr. Renton Grigor, was my parents' lived at Birkenhead several decades later.

Welcome to Susie Cook, who has moved into the residence from Monday to Friday. Jan and I were invited to the IHC farewell function at Waipuna Lodge on 29 July for Ron Major's retirement. It was an excellent public relations exercise as we



were able to speak at length to Robin Northey, Manager Disability

Support Services for North Health. We took the opportunity to speak of our hope to start a multiple disabled group on the lower ground floor which would integrate with our Activity Centre for part of each day. Jenny and Bruce Donaldson are involved in negotiating this to become a reality. We also saw Lesley Max, Rod Dean, J.B. Munro, Angus Capie, Barrie Skudder, Anne Johnson, Val Gould, Audrey Fish and many others. Most were conversant with Ranfurly's success which we of course were promoting.

Congratulations must go to Lynda and Greg Rathbun, Olivia and Edward for the safe arrival of their twin sons, Bradley and Alan. Two for the price of one - we hope Greg, our treasurer, can do the same for us.

On Friday 13 August Jenny and I attended Natasha's graduation from AUT (Formerly ATI) as she was graduating from the courses she has been attending at the Te Tari Awhina Learning Support Centre at Wellesley Street Campus. Natasha is now attending a 16 week at the Akarana Campus on the North Shore for 'work experience' designed to help people with a disability find employment.

Our congratulations to Ursula Lampitt who was presented with a Merit Certificate by the Jaycees recognising her as a Kiwi Leader for her thirty years service to the community. We were asked to take her to the function without her knowing the reason. Pat Cooke did a wonderful job in achieving this however when they arrived Ursula saw Jan Mitchell, Hilary and Graham Reid, her daughter and sister Bonnie Marshall there she decided that something was up. She would have happily beaten a retreat homeward. It was wonderful to see the work of this quiet unassuming lady recognised she has worked for many years to add pleasure to the lives of our people. For many years another role she has excelled at is the Birthday Lady sending a card to each of our people on their special day.

THE ENCHANTED FOREST

Featuring our people who attend the Ranfurly Activity Centre
Thursday 30 September 1993
Friday 1 October 1993

Time 7.30pm

Tickets \$5

The production will be in our newly refurbished hall (which was formerly the fire damaged part of the Activity Centre). The costumes and stage effects are absolutely fantastic and professional.

Seating will be limited and we expect capacity audiences both nights.

Tickets are available at Ranfurly Activity Centre from 9.00am to 4.00 pm daily
or phone Nonie Kiely 520 5424 or Teddy Martin 5200267

Admission will be by ticket only. To avoid disappointment get your tickets early.





Ranfurly Care stages a special fairytale

By DEBORAH DIAZ

When "The Enchanted Forest" opens on Thursday night, it promises to be a very different performance.

The production has all the trappings of a classic fairytale: a prince locked in a cage for 200 years, a princess with the key — and an evil queen determined to keep them apart.

There is the struggle between the forces of good and evil, and of course, a "happily ever after ending".

What makes "The Enchanted Forest" unusual is that the production is written, designed and acted by the residents of Ranfurly Care Centre for the intellectually handicapped in Epsom.

The group has been working under the direction of drama therapist Maxine Donnellan and Steve Miers-Jones since the beginning of the year.

The success of their weekly sessions led to a decision to produce a full-scale production.

The result is full-scale indeed, complete with soundtrack and laser-lights.

Steve Miers-Jones says that working with intellectually handicapped actors adds something to the performance which is unique.

"Not all of them can work to a script per se, so there is a strong element of improvisation."

Underlying the fairytale exterior is a more serious side.

As the plot developed from various improvisations, a very poignant message began to emerge.

"We began working at the beginning of the year at things that were problematic for them," Steve says.

"The play is very symbolic for these people in that they have been in a prison.

"People don't believe they have talent, many think they are incapable.

"The play is about re-empowering themselves, which they have done through the medium of

drama."

Part of the challenge has been teaching the players to use a whole spectrum of real emotions not often used.

"People want them to be sweet and nice, and angry isn't nice.

"Within the play, they explore a whole range of emotions," says Steve.

A striking example is a lovers' dance performed by the prince and princess.

"The first time they danced it was so moving and beautiful, and I thought, that's it.

"It's a one-off, they can't do that again.

"But they did, and it's one of the most powerful moments in the play."

Maxine and Steve are two of only five registered drama therapist in the country.

They are adamant that their role is minimal, only having tapped into the "natural talents and spontaneity of our people."

"The Enchanted Forest" will play for three nights at the Ranfurly Centre Hall in Epsom, from Thursday, September 30 to Saturday, October 2 at 7.00pm.

The first two shows have essentially sold out, with a few seats remaining for the final performance.

Tickets are \$5, and are available from the Ranfurly Activity Centre from 9am to 3pm Monday to Friday, telephone 630-3010, or by phoning 520-5242.

NEWS FROM THE ACTIVITY CENTRE

The Activity Centre has undergone some staff changes since the last newsletter. Leon Sparrow left having spent the first 18 months at the centre with us. We wish him all the best for his future career. Joy Jane and Jenny Brinsdon remain with the addition of the new team members. George Butler comes to Ranfurly with a wealth of experienced skills having been involved with many of our people since 1978. Anne Moston brings a keen interest, experience and qualifications in the recreational field, and Carl Williams who is the man who can turn his hand to anything, has wonderful talents in the arts field. The emphasis on the Activity Centre is 'Team Work' and we are happy to report that it is working. We are committed to providing the opportunity for an enhanced quality of life through recreation and leisure for the people.

We continue to provide a swimming programme which takes us to the CCS pool in Mount Street three

afternoons a week. More serious swimmers use Mt Eden Pool on Thursdays to swim lengths. For our keen walkers we have rejoined the Y's 'Walking Gillies Avenue' group. When the hall is completed we will be fortunate to have more space to move in. Weather conditions will not be a problem. The area is ideal for our regular morning exercise sessions, not to mention drama therapy, sports and numerous other activities. We have set up the table tennis and pool table for regular use. These are both activities which are wonderful for coordination. George is our regular potter (in training). He returns from his pottery course at the Auckland Studio Potters every Monday with ideas and enthusiasm to share.



The pottery room is set up with groups enjoying the opportunity to be expressive with clay. Alongside, Carl has many projects on the go in the woodwork room.

The drama production has been keeping a lot of people busy. There is a lot of preparation involved particularly in the sewing of costumes and organisation of props. Thanks to all the people who have helped along the way.

Everyone at the Activity Centre has been most appreciative of Mr and Mrs. Duncan and the Ladies Auxiliary who have financed two major outings recently.

On Friday 9 July we were blessed with sunshine and clear skies for a day trip 'out west' on the double decker bus. It was a terrific action packed day for everyone — including the staff and family members with stops at the Bird Barn and a visit to Rose and John Askews miniature horse stud farm at Tuapaki to spend time among the beautiful miniature horses.



We have been invited back in November when the mares are due to foal which will certainly be a must! Before returning to Ranfurly we stopped off at Ashley Cottage for afternoon tea!



On Friday 6 August we were off again this time to the Ryder Museum in Avondale. A unique place, Ryder Museum has movie memorabilia from days gone by. We were treated to a movie 'Strictly Ballroom' in the very charming movie theatre and a roast dinner lunch cooked on a coal range.

Christmas card sales were pleasing. We have covered the cost of our cards; have a stock for next year and \$3,000 in the bank. Our thanks to Nonie and all her helpers for their hard work making this possible

Epsom Girls Grammar started their course on Community Integration with the Handicapped. A similar course last year was very successful and a plus to our society.



Looking back on last year there is a group of ladies we know as the Ladies Auxiliary who have worked tirelessly raising funds for those 'special things in life'. Throughout this last year when we were 'feeling' our way financially their presence and contributions have brought much pleasure. The visible culmination of their efforts was the Activity Centre Christmas Party. Our Father Christmas needed a helper with his sack laden with individually chosen gifts for everyone. We can't say a big enough 'thank you' to these wonderful people.

Maureen Musgrove was married last Saturday here in the grounds and is going to live in the Thames area. Lorna Bailey is embarking on a new career in arts and crafts. They will both be missed.

Joining our Activity staff is Jenny Brinsdon who has among her many skills a wonderful gift with puppets. Joy Jane who was here as a volunteer last year is now part of our full time staff. Jane Doogan is now full time in the Activity Centre and Jan Pieters is now in the residence. Gordon Ham continues to be part of the team making a staff ratio of one to five. In the residence we have two young ladies who have joined us for weekend activities, Vanessa and Maree.

The Shoppe was closed through the month of January but is once again open from 11.00 to 3.00 pm. We need publicity so please spread the news to your friends that it is a great place to get small gifts. We are looking for someone who would like the job of coordinating the staff roster for the Shoppe and expressing their artistic skills in the presentation of goods. We could apply for someone from the volunteer centre but I would prefer to see it kept in the family by one of the friends of Ranfurly.

There are two new exciting programmes in the Activity Centre this year. Firstly we have a weekly Music Therapy session. At the beginning of February we had a whole week of a Drama Course which was thoroughly enjoyed by both staff and our people. We have found it possible to extend this to a three hour session each Monday, for the rest of the year. This is taken by Steve and Maxine. Steve began working with people with a disability 9 years ago and worked as a charge training officer at Mangere and St. John's Home. He is married with two boys and recently returned to New Zealand after completing his post graduate diploma in drama therapy in London. He now works in music, drama and creative arts in a studio in Northcote where he works as a clinical and consultant therapist.

Maxine is a qualified therapist trained in speech and drama in London. She has worked professionally both here and overseas, she now uses the creativity and excitement found in shows in a therapeutic manner often at her Northcote studio.

The Trustees have purchased a 1989 Ford Telstar station Wagon as a second vehicle for use for the smaller jobs when the van is too large or when a second vehicle is needed for the smaller groups. Our thanks to Mr. and Klisser and another anonymous well wisher for helping to make this possible.

March 1994

From the President Jan Mitchell

Ranfurly Care is now in its third year and we can all be very proud of the standard of care we are providing and the healthy vital state of our Society. When we took over the property at the beginning of 1992 it was with a very large mortgage from Housing Corporation. This was in two parts, one long term mortgage on the portion they saw as residential and one short term on the building we use for our Day Service. This short term mortgage was for \$173,000 and I am very proud to tell you that with the help of donations from our very generous friends and fund raising by Society members (including \$2,000 from Christmas card sales this year) we have now reduced this part of our debt to \$35,000. This puts us in a much more secure situation and we aim to get rid of this portion of our debt as soon as possible.

The interior residential lodge is now looking beautiful, with newly refurbished smaller bathrooms (we have got rid of the institutional feel of the previous designs), luxurious new carpets and a sparkling new kitchen. All of it has been done with the assistance of the ASB Trust as has the transformation of the burnt shell of a hall on the other side of our driveway into a first class recreation and social facility which we use ourselves extensively and make available to other community groups. We all enjoy the socialising this affords us with other people in the community.

The Day Programme we provide for our residents and many others who join us each day from their homes with their families is recognised as one of the best available anywhere in New Zealand. We have great staff with lots of individual special skills and they are led by our manager Linda Nelson. Linda is a very special person who puts everything into her work for Ranfurly. Our residential staff creates a very happy homely atmosphere and it is obvious that the residents know it is their home and staff are just there to support them.

The Board of Trustees who make all the decisions regarding our property and assets meet once a month, as do the Committee who make decisions on matters to do with the running of the services. All these people give their time and expertise to Ranfurly and contribute of our effective operation.

Things are constantly changing in the disability funding area and it takes a lot of time to keep up with the play. The paper war is endless and just when we have it all sorted out they change the system! However by reducing our indebtedness we are becoming less vulnerable to changes in funding

Thank you for your support

Ranfurly Care Society Committee

President: Jan Mitchell **Vice President:** Dr. Florence Fraser **Members:** Mary Fenton
Maurice Meredith Nonie Kiely Dr Bill Shieff **Secretary:** Linda Nelson in attendance

Ranfurly Care Trustees

Chairman: John Radley

Trustees: Ross Green Alister Martin Hewitt Harrison Tom Kiely Jan Mitchell Chas Watters

Treasurer: Greg Rathbun

From the Manager Linda Nelson March 1994

At long last another newsletter goes to press. Another Christmas and New Year has come and gone and I'd like to take this belated chance of wishing all our readers the very best for the remainder of 1994.

Last year was another amazing year of achievement and development and growth for Ranfurly. The Activity Centre has developed, through team effort, services that have been used by thirty nine families and are the envy of other service providers. We have twelve permanent residents living in the home and we have been able to give others up to twenty eight days a year of respite care. Let us hope for the sake of those who use respite care the funding for this facility will continue after the reorganisation of funding with this budget being transferred to Regional Health Authority in 1995.

Our most productive public relations exercise must be 'The Enchanted Forest' which not only demonstrated the goals and personal self esteem that intellectually challenged people can achieve but also put our name forward through featuring on the 'Holmes Show' which has an audience of some 50,000 viewers. On behalf of Ranfurly, we thank our friends Colleen and Les Mills for making all concerned feel like stars by presenting every performer with bouquets after the final performance.

Maxine Donnellan, co producer and Drama Therapist supervised the making of a highlights video, which is a valuable record of an emotional experience for all involved, performers, staff and audience alike. We have followed up this year with a different programme focusing on Educational Drama, as we are amazed at the concentration and interest shown by participants and the widening of their communication skills. We have a new Music Therapist this year - Ms Michal Pierard, as Vivienne Colgrove has gone to Melbourne to continue her studies. We have been given a discretionary fund grant of \$900 by Auckland City towards the funding of this activity which enhances creative talent.

During this period we have had a great deal of help from the Periodic Detention Supervisor, Laurie Griffiths, who with his guidance, has accomplished extensive maintenance of the grounds and help with the refurbishment of our hall and buildings. The staff deserves praise for the continued efforts in ensuring the standard of care was being maintained through difficult periods of disruption. Ultimately, any facility is only as good as its staff.

We are pleased that we have the continued support of Christine Fletcher as the successfully re-elected representative for our electorate. Our thanks too, to the Friends of Ranfurly for their continued efforts, which has included two successful fund raising street stalls. My hope is that this Newsletter can be instrumental in attracting new members to this supportive group.

Epsom Girls Grammar is so pleased with their pupils' response to the Community Integration Course, that they are continuing their support again this year. Diocesan also sent two teams of girls to spend two mornings in the Activity Centre last year.

Everyone enjoyed a dance organised by the Eden/Epsom Jaycees in September which was another highly successful evening, with many from IHC and other Trust Homes in attendance. We are planning many more with their help. The Jaycees also helped us to raise \$600 through the premier presentation of the movie 'Peters Friends' which was enjoyed by a full house.

We have been able to organise for all the residents to take a holiday this year, in addition to any holidays they may have had with their families. Alma Epere, a residential staff member took three people to the Watters home in Taupo for a few days while Chas and Colleen were in the UK and other holidays were supervised by Activity Centre staff.

All are welcome in the Country and Western musical evenings which are held in our Hall on every second Wednesday, the next being on the 23 rd March.

A thank you to Alister Martin and Cardy Business Machines for helping us with the donation of a used photo copying machine when our previous one expired last year.

Finally a big thank you to all those people - too numerous to mention by name who have supported us either by thought word or deed or by financial assistance in this latter half of the second year of Ranfurly Care.



Activity Centre News

by Annie Mosten

We at the Activity Centre have been enjoying working in a team Approach meeting all the many good times, opportunities and challenges during the past six months.

The Enchanted Forest production was a tremendous success. The planning preparation and the presentation involved many people and many hours. The video of the production is often watched and always enjoyed in the centre.

Equally enjoyed has been the video of the trip to the Maritime Museum and a return to the miniature horses that had just foaled. We have had two trips now on the Double Decker bus which have given us all many great memories.

FROM THE PRESIDENT..... May 1995

It is now three years since we started Ranfurly Care fired with determination to succeed. For the first two years our work to improve the property was mainly interior. This year changes are there for all to see. The exterior of the residence has been painted with the institutional brown being replaced by a soft colour scheme which changes and enhances the building. A new brick and trellis fence with a BBQ built into the fence separates the car parking from the front courtyard of the residence. This has proved a wonderful and private outdoor area which is a delight. We are now moving toward by upgrading the toilet facilities in the Activity Centre, thanks to the continued support of the ASB Trust.

Our continuing growth and development is due to our wonderfully generous benefactors together with our dedicated manager and staff, supported by many volunteers. We all gain inspiration from our people. Since the latter part of the last year the residents meet every two months and discuss their problems and try to resolve them. They also have input into many aspects of their life at Ranfurly. The large sun umbrella in the courtyard resulted from one of these meetings.

Later this year we are having a Market Day as our major fundraising for the year. Elsewhere in this Newsletter you will find details of our plans. There is always a risk that this kind of event falls to just a few so let me remind you of the sayings 'Many hands make light work' and 'Every little helps'. If you feel you can contribute in any way we would love to hear from you. Otherwise we would love to see you on the day.

MAY 1995 FROM THE MANAGER



A very belated Happy New Year! And what a New Year it has been after the ecstatic jubilation of winning the America's Cup. Ranfurly participated by watching the final race on the television and wearing the Lucky Red Socks which were donated to the residents by corporate Sponsorships organised by Mike Keenan. This wonderful event has really pulled the community together, and hopefully this spirit will continue until at least the year 2000!!



Oh well back to earth.....too much has happened to mention all the wonderful and not so wonderful daily occurrences which take place at Ranfurly.

This newsletter is to touch base with all our supporters and to try and give you all a very brief idea of some of the highlights which we have shared over the past few months.

I feel that with the completion of the exterior painting of the building, Ranfurly Care has now established itself with its own identity. This really gives us both pride and pleasure in our achievement. The generous ASB grant will enable us to refurbish the Activity Centre ablution block and the Trustees plan to replace the floor covering at the same time. This work should be completed by the end of the year.

RANFURLY SONG by Laan Chau

I love to go to Ranfurly In a taxi cab And when I am there I love to smile
Because no one is sad
Taralee, taralee, taralee, taralee, because no one is sad

I really am a show –biz woman as I love dressing up I like to go on outings too
When George and Carl are good. Taralee, taralee, taralee, taralee, w h e n
George and Carl are good.

I like popcorn and ice-cream which we have frequently but most of all when
Friday comes

I love my fish and chips Taralee, taralee, taralee, taralee, I love my fish and
chips.



We now have two vans and this gives us the luxury of flexibility in that we are able to transport our more handicapped people. They can now be included in many more activities than before. When required, in the near future we will now be able to make the choice to fit a hoist to one of the vans.

There are two events coming up which really need your support. Our major fundraising event is to be a Market Day to be held on Sunday August 20th and then for your entertainment our production 'The Toy Store.'

FROM THE ACTIVITY CENTRE

Another great six months filled with new activities, some of which have been detailed for your interest, such as the Fitness Centre, Art Room and Education Centre.

This year the Drama Group under the guidance of Steve Miers-Jones have been busy putting together a production called 'The Toy Store' which they plan to present either at the end of November or the beginning of December. This bulletin is to enable you to keep this in mind, as your support is important to our people. Those of us who were fortunate enough to experience the 'Enchanted Forest' will need no encouragement to book tickets for this next production.

We have spent a lot of time on Lifestyle Plans and Goal setting for all the students. We are grateful to Toni Hedgeland, who was recommended by S.A.M.S. for her tuition in this field. One of our students, Jan had a goal to take some of her friends to morning tea in a Coffee Shop. Jan achieved this goal with great aplomb. On Friday 3 February our staff member Annie moved to Australia. We were very sorry to see her leave but have been very fortunate to have Julie Allen join our team. Julie started with us on February 13th and the following is her profile.

ABOUT JULIE I completed a B.A. Honours Degree in Design, specialising in Woven Tapestry at Edinburgh College of Art, Scotland in 1986. I moved down to London and was employed at Kensington Sports Centre as a Recreation Assistant. Here I met my Kiwi husband Peter. During my time in London I completed a number of Art Therapy Courses at Goldsmiths College of Art and the City University,

Peter and I came to New Zealand in 1992 after travelling for three months through Egypt, India, Asia and Australia. We lived in Waihi for a year and a half and it was here I gave birth to Rya Louise our beautiful daughter. I worked part time in Tauranga as a Teacher Aide and helping an Occupational Therapist work with children who have learning and behavioural difficulties. I enjoyed this work immensely. We moved to Auckland in 1994 and I completed the Foundation year of Counselor Training. In 1995 I gained employment at Ranfurly Care Activity Centre. Here I use my recreational skills and creativity and I am really enjoying the work. I am continuing with further training in both recreation and Art Therapy by taking an active part in courses available with Human Development Institute of New Zealand.

Special thanks to all our friends who work so tirelessly for Ranfurly, raising funds, giving personal time and donations which make many extra activities possible for our people. Special mention should be made to the Ladies Auxiliary whose generosity has made possible a Christmas Gift for staff and students, Easter Eggs and the BBQ and are always willing to help support any other activities which we might want to undertake. Final break-up day included a visit from Santa Clause plus a luncheon and a concert.



Pottery Group

We can honestly say our potters have really matured over the past month. Our group is comprised of eight keen people and anyone who is interested is very welcome to attend. We try to have two good sessions each week and the keenest person keeps us to our weekly schedule!

Over the past months the group has progressed to more free-hand clay work. This has been really encouraging and the progress for everyone has been remarkable.

We try to make 'specials' for those times during the year when they are needed and the response has been really positive. The Ranfurly Potters are a neat group of people and the medium of clay is an excellent tool for one and all.

Folk Dance Sessions

During the past months the staff from the Activity Centre has held weekly sessions for everyone on Mondays from 10.30 am to 12 noon. George co-ordinates with the staff to ensure each person participates to their best ability during the sessions.

Our aim is to develop a group activity with everyone willing to share and care about each other, to work together and not to have individual performances. We teach circle dances, couple and small group dances which incorporate body movement, basic line dance steps, with regular consistent rhythm and timing.

We participate in warm- up routines and use motor skills to assist those we support during the sessions. We believe these regular sessions have been beneficial to all who participate. We will continue to hold sessions throughout the year.

Education Centre

A wide range of individual learning programmes for twelve of our students, including reading, writing, time and numbers on a one to one basis is now established. Each student is making progress in their individual field. One of the more novel programmes included Natasha going to a hat-box making course in Remuera.

Special Olympics have been busy fundraising \$185,000.00 to send four athletes to the International Games in New Haven U.S.A. in June.



Our last fundraising event was a Ten Pin Bowling Tournament held on Sunday May 14th. Many Ranfurly residents and their families took part, along with local celebrities and interested people, and a very enjoyable day was had by all who attended. We raised \$2,500.00 and have now reached our target. Many people have worked very hard to raise this money and we have been constantly amazed and humbled by the spirit of generosity we encountered everywhere.

We wish the New Zealand Special Olympics team every success at the International Games and know they will represent New Zealand and Special Olympics with pride.

Chris Fletcher Shares with Special Olympics

Rotoroa Island Trip.
 On Tuesday George took us down to the wharf, and we stepped on the boat, we go to Rotoroa Island. It took three hours to get to Rotoroa Island; the weather was fine and the water was calm, we had a cup of tea on the boat. When we arrived at Rotoroa Island the Salvation Army showed us to the motel, I shared my room with Bobbie. Bobbie and I unpack my luggage; after that when Bobbie and I finished unpack our luggage we sat in the lounge and had our rest because our journey was so long we went upstairs to the dining room and had tea; after tea we climb down the stairs went to the beach for a walk with Carl and the other group. And we had supper, after supper we went to bed because we were so tired.

by Leon. 8/July 94

Waiting for the boat to come in!

Auckland Central Special Olympics is now located in the downstairs space which until recently was used as an Art Room for Ranfurly Care Facilities.

Sharing the office, phone, lighting and other facilities eases the financial burden of funding the office.

The Auckland Special Olympics coordinator Jocelyn Sweeney is delighted with the arrangement which she says now provides the Branch with a centrally located permanent home at an exceptionally good rental and with all the necessary services. Jocelyn says the Auckland Branch intend to run more events from the Ranfurly Care Hall in the future so watch this space for further developments.....

For your interest I have enclosed copies of the Social Welfare Reform Bill update, news of the Health and Disability Commissioner, Mrs Robyn Stent, and the Government commitment to sign the United Nations Proclamation.

I have several concerns regarding changes to the Social Welfare Reform Bill and have further information on this subject should you be interested.

Once again thank you to all those who have supported us either by thought, word, deed or financial assistance.

Linda Nelson

POWER to the PEOPLE

Robyn Stent is the first person to take up the post of the Health and Disability Commissioner. She has an impressive management background in health, disability, energy, telecommunications and banking. She has also worked on a number of trusts set up to help people with mental and physical disabilities achieve greater independence, as well as having been Acting General Manager of the Auckland Area Health Board in 1993.

The office of the Health and Disability Commissioner was established last year by an Act of Parliament. The Government's aim was to create legislation to promote and protect the rights of everyone using health and disability support services and to quickly and fairly resolve complaints resulting from infringements of those rights:

The office of the Health and Disability Commissioner has three main functions in the health and disability sector:

- to establish a code of consumers' rights
- to set up a consumer advocacy service
- to put in place procedures for the independent investigation and resolution of complaints about breaches of the code.

Robyn says her first task is drawing up the Code of Rights for consumers of health and disability services. She says doing the job properly **will** require a considerable amount of consultation, and is keen on accessing as much main stream opinion as possible.

"I'm hoping to get a broad cross section of the population including a number of places which aren't always asked for their views; people who work in schools, factories, pubs and unemployed people."

At the same time as developing the Code of Rights (hoped to be in place by the end of the year), Robyn **will** also be laying the groundwork for the advocacy service which **will** cover the entire country and putting in place a process for resolving complaints early.

Her's is a role with considerable power. New Zealand's Health and Disability Commissioner is able to investigate issues without requiring someone to lay a complaint. She describes her job as unique. There are other Health Commissioners, for example New South Wales has one, but they don't have the advocacy service.

Robyn says the major goal of her office **will** be to emphasise the promotion, education and protection side of the legislation. She says it **will** be much better to prevent problems occurring rather than trying to sort them out afterwards. Putting the effort into prevention **will** be harder, but the outcomes should be more rewarding.

Robyn says she hopes the new legislation **will** help remedy some of these shortcomings, particularly in the long term. She believes that by having the ability to investigate complaints, which in the past had largely been the reserve of professional medical bodies, those groups **will** now be able to devote more time to improving their professional standards through such things as codes of practice and peer review.

"The aims of my office and the majority of health professionals are really the same; we both want to see good customer /client relationships in the health and disability service. I believe that, like me, they see this process as helping."

Robyn view is that the Act which established her office helps to complete the reforms. She says this legislation empowers the consumer and helps ensure that there is an improvement in services; something which was part of the reasoning behind the reforms when they were first planned.

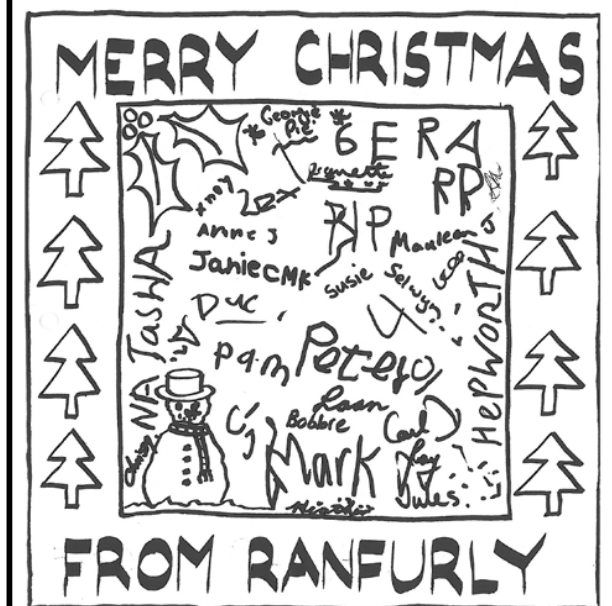
The thing that she says appeals most about the position is the opportunity to be a catalyst to empower other people.

The Health and Disability Commissioner can be contacted on (04) 495-6669, 100 Molesworth Street, P O Box 12299, Wellington.

The new Health and Disability Commissioner believes it's her job to inform the New Zealand public that they have rights when being cared for or receiving service in the health and disability system and they also have a say in determining those rights.

Ranfurly Care

52 - 56 Ranfurly Road, Epsom, Auckland
Phone or Fax 630-3010



DECEMBER 1995 FROM THE MANAGER

The timing of this Newsletter enables me to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. As you will see by the promotion, thanks to Nonie Kiely and her team of willing helpers, we are in the business of selling cards again this year. This will enable our friends and supporters to extend the Christmas message to their friends and family.

We are living in times of great change. There is a true saying "nothing is more constant than change". Funding has been transferred from NZ Income Support to the controversial RHA (Regional Health Authority). Ranfurly has changed from a run down, neglected, unloved complex to a 'HOME'. The Home and Activity Centre now both provide pleasant and comfortable surroundings; a facility filled with happiness, laughter and love.

This year we have put a lot of resources into our most valuable asset, the staff, by providing a variety of comprehensive training - a Red Cross First Aid Certificate Course, training for Life Style Planning, Schizophrenia, Strategic Planning, Certificate Course Teaching People with Disabilities, and Employment

Support and 'Continuing Education. Our service has been monitored by an external key point evaluation and the RHA Internal Audit. These appraisals are important factors in maintaining quality services.

We have been able to support seventeen families with respite care for those families who are able to care for their disabled loved ones at home and need some time out. We have also entertained and enjoyed many interesting and stimulating visitors during the year.

The parents and residents both have monthly meetings that provide extra ideas and support to maintain a full lifestyle for the people we care for.

We are in the process of organising summer holidays for all our residents. Many will go and stay with Ailsa and John at their Coroglen Lodge. The staff are also planning their yearly holidays deserving a well earned rest. The combined staff enjoyed the camaraderie of the midyear winter luncheon.

A big "Thank You" to all of our friends and supporters who made the Market Day such a resounding success, raising over \$6000. God bless you all. *LINDA*

PLEASE SUPPORT
**RANFURLY CARE
SOCIETY**

for the
Intellectually Handicapped

**CHRISTMAS
CARDS**

(10 Cards for \$5
or 10 boxed assorted
Deluxe cards for \$10)

These cards are available
from Ranfurly Care Society
Ph 630-3010 or
Nonie Kiely Ph 520-5242

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Time has flown since our last Newsletter and there has not been a dull moment. At the beginning of July, Linda went to England to her son's wedding. While she was away, Sue Owen, Bob Cardwell and myself took over the reins. It was an interesting experience and made me realise even more how precious Linda is for the success of Ranfurly. Just as she returned, the upgrading of the toilet area in the Activity Centre started. The work has now been completed and the disruption has been well worthwhile. We have also upgraded the front Activity area.

None of this would have been possible without the cooperation of the staff and students. Thank you all for your patience and tolerance - well done! I am sure it has all been worthwhile. Our Market Day in August was very successful due to team spirit. The purpose of the fund raising was to get curtains for the Hall and these should be hung in January. There is never a dull moment here; with Linda and the staff always looking for new activities and ways to improve the service. Thank you to all the staff and volunteers for your love and enthusiasm. I wish everyone a Joyous Christmas and a New Year filled with Health and Happiness.
Jan Mitchell

Outings and Monthly Themes

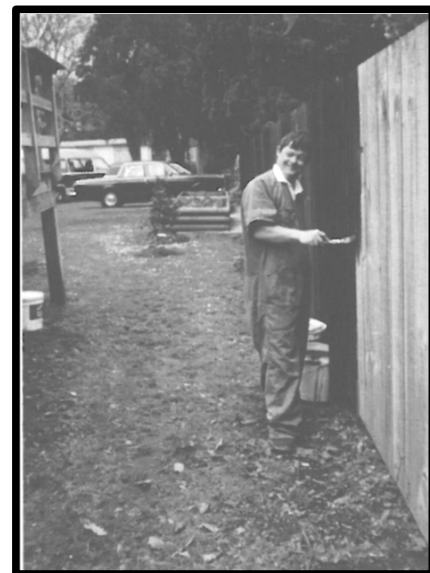
June - Queen's Birthday was celebrated with the preparation of paper crowns decorated with glitter for each of our students. On the day each student was crowned king or queen and was allowed to make a wish which the court jesters (the staff) carried out. The Celebrations ended with a special afternoon tea.

July - Carl and Joy took some of our people on a day trip in one of the vans to check out Miranda before the planned double-decker bus trip. They arrived back with glowing reports of the best fish and chips in New Zealand at Kaiaua, a Wild Life Sanctuary and museum. They were so pleased that later in the month about fifty two parents, students and staff boarded the double-decker bus and set off for Miranda (even Maureen came as it was her birthday). Unfortunately it was raining but as the day progressed this cleared a little, though everywhere we stopped there was mud pools of water to negotiate but no one complained. We stopped at a pottery shop on the way and bought a baby dragon as a memento of the trip. The fish and chips were enjoyed by all and the Bird Sanctuary and museum were very educational. Altogether a most enjoyable day's outing.

Jules had a great idea that she picked up from her daughter's kindergarten to do some mug painting. It went very well and we had people from other houses coming in to paint mugs. Everyone was involved including the staff. The colourful finger-print and other designs were a credit to all.

August - The highlight of this month for Ian was seeing the America's Cup at the maritime Museum. Even though it was a wet day, the group that went sailed on a yacht in the harbour and saw the Shortland Street boat the Tairoa. It was a day enjoyed by all.

Daffodil Day was celebrated with a group of our people going to the National Bank with Jules and Robin where they made a donation and came back with their daffodils feeling very proud of themselves.



This isn't mug painting but fence painting by Gerard - a conscientious and happy worker

September - The first day of September commenced with a Spring Festival. A beautiful Mural on paper adorned the hall walls and there was May-pole dancing, music and a special lunch. During September, we had two students, Cecelia and Regina, from Auckland College of Education who quickly fitted into the Activity Centre's life and were a great help and loved by all. Cecelia still comes back as a volunteer when she has time.

George, Jeanette and a group of students spent the day at the zoo during this month. We even saw an animal tranquillised so that its torn mouth and nose could be attended to by the vet. An interesting day!

One Tuesday it was decided to spend the day in the Domain. Two staff members and four students went by bus, but returned to Ranfurly in the van as the bus fare was rather expensive. We enjoyed flying kites, competing in running races and lounging around.

October - This was a very educational month for the staff. We visited a series of workshops including Work Options at Onehunga, Disabled Citizens Society in Dominion Road, and Pinnacle industries at East Street, Newton. It was useful to see how these workshops functioned and they fitted in with the staff training course from Auckland College of Education as we completed a module on Employment Support. Also Degree students used some of our people with their parent's permission to complete their module in Employment Support. Jeanette was also fortunate enough to be able to attend one of Michael Kendrick's lectures at Auckland College of Education. For two days in October we had eight students from Diocesan Girl's School observing from 9am - midday.

November - Mr. and Mrs. Lake and Debra entertained us at their place by having a wonderful barbecue. The work that they put into it was colossal and their great hospitality is appreciated by all. It was a lovely hot summery day.

Later in the month the Activity Staff visited Avalon Training Centre near Tauranga. This was a most momentous visit as Chas Watters had been trying to arrange this visit for two years. We met Mrs.

Rimmer and Chas Watters at Avalon. It was a most memorable and instructive day seeing how another vocational centre operated.

Carl and Joy visited Long Bay to investigate accommodation and the possibility of our people attending a Confidence course with M.E.R.C. It is a feasible proposition and it is hoped that a group may attend next year.

The Activity Centre supported 'Jeans Day' for the Asthma Society and Child Health by wearing jeans for which they received a certificate. Halloween was celebrated with decorations in the hall and ducking for apples in a bucket of water and bobbing for the donut. Great fun!

A number of people attended the Ellerslie Flower Show, courtesy of the conveners. It was a great experience enjoyed by those who were able to attend.

Carl and Jules went to Kelly Tarleton's with a group and vetted it a well worthwhile experience.

COMMUNICARE NEWS

Communicare had their 25 Birthday Party on the 25 July. At the Christmas Party, Pam, Laan, Annette and Anne received an award for caring, good work and helping others.

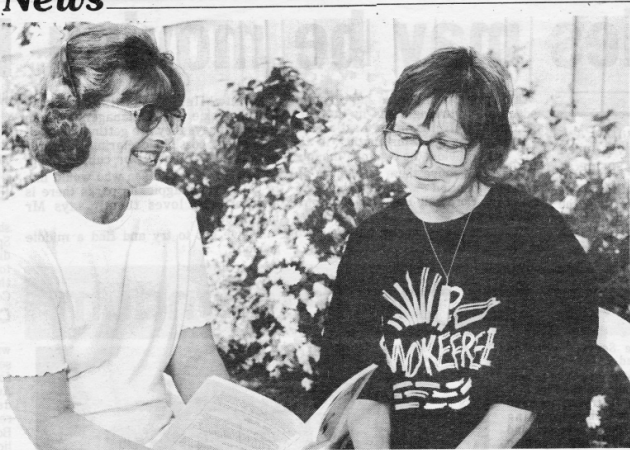
THE FITNESS CENTRE NEWS

The Super Circuits Gym Class has been running now since February on every Monday and Friday afternoon. It is very successful and the group is progressing well. A new multi-gym was purchased in October, which everyone is enjoying using. A particular "Well Done" to Ian Fraser for all his hard work on the exercise.

EDUCATION GROUP

CENTRAL LEADER 1.12.95

News



Poetry celebrates 'beautiful people' of Ranfurly Hall

When Jeanette Baalbergen's boss suggested she write a book about the intellectually challenged adults she works with, she decided to give it a go. The end result is *Elders of Innocence*, a collection of 46 poems about the residents of Ranfurly Care Society Hall in Epsom. Mrs Baalbergen, a registered nurse, says the book was difficult to write because of the delicacy of the subject.

"I didn't want to make them seem ridiculous. I wanted to show them as beautiful," she says. "They are beautiful people."

The book has been endorsed by MP Christine Fletcher and Mayoress Colleen Mills and a percentage of the royalties will go to the Ranfurly Care Society.

POET AND INSPIRATION: Author Jeanette Baalbergen reads a poem about Bobby Carter (pictured right) from her book *Elders of Innocence* at the Ranfurly Care Home in Epsom.



This group are doing well with their individual programmes. Their main goals are to learn to tell the time, recognise figures, write their names and read. Debra has made great progress in achieving reading skills. This was her main goal in her Lifestyle Plan and I'm delighted to report on such excellent progress.

COMMUNICATION SESSIONS

If you are not aware, you may be interested to learn that each morning we conduct a session of communication for all students to participate. This has proved invaluable for everyone in terms of - learning to sit patiently within a group setting. Each

individual takes a turn to tell the group what may be presently happening in their lives or items that are of particular interest to students and staff.

For those students who may have verbal or even non-verbal difficulties, everyone is encouraged to recognise and where practical, assist that student to communicate either by sound, gesture or eye contact. A microphone is used to make learning fun and in return that brings out the best in some students. We believe these sessions have been an excellent tool for general community participation and the students do look forward to having their turn. We have had some really wonderful sessions in the past few months.

POTTERY NEWS

Hello from the Pottery Shed! Well, yes our 'potters' have been most productive over the past weeks. We have two sessions per week and are getting really good at supporting each other in our work. We hope to have made a piece each for Christmas. Hopefully, after firing up the kiln, our work can be coated and painted.

We use white clay from Nelson as it is a little finer in texture and easier to handle. We experiment with shapes and design. Unfortunately our electric potter's wheel has come to a grinding halt so we are presently looking for a replacement.

We plan to go out on a visit to a Studio and watch others performing the art of pottery. I'm always amazed at the results of each of our sessions. Clay is a wonderful medium to work with. I hope to involve the group with a visit to the Auckland Potters Association of which we are members. We can have our pieces fired there and return to Ranfurly to finish them here.....

Merry Christmas from the Ranfurly Potters and their tutor George Butler.

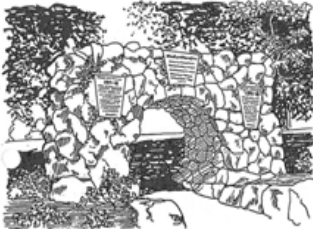
FOLK DANCING SESSIONS

This medium of group participation has, I believe, been very encouraging for all students with the primary goal of being group support for everyone. We have covered many items over the past few weeks from relaxation, involving how to sit comfortably, breathing exercises and generally learning to be part of a group.

With the support of staff and a variety of dance music, we have held very productive sessions each Monday morning. The combined circle dancing has proved successful with everyone being involved and I believe we have achieved our aims and objectives. Dance is a wonderful form of expression, feeling and movement. We will stage a small demonstration of group circle dancing on our final breakup function. At present we are going through practice sessions to put together a short but enjoyable performance. George Butler and Staff



Ranfurly Road



MARKET DAY

DECEMBER 6-9

With Christmas just around the corner...

*Ranfurly Care's
"The Shoppe"
will be open from
December 6th also!
There are limited
supplies of
Christmas Mince
and after the 15th
there will be
Strawberry jam!*

DISCUSSION GROUP TO CONSIDER REQUIREMENTS OF OLDER RESIDENTS

At the recent Strategic Planning Meeting held at Ranfurly questions were raised about what services were specifically desirable for older people in our care, in view of the fact that we have an aging population among our people.

I was asked to set up a group to look into this and bring its findings back to the Society. To date I have sought information as to what is provided for this group in other countries, as a starting point.

Would anyone who is interested in taking part in these discussions please contact me. I would welcome views in writing from anyone who cannot attend the meetings as well.

Jan Mitchell, 8 Kelvin Road, Remuera. Phone: 5240501

(I would envisage that we would need to have 3 or 4 meetings.)

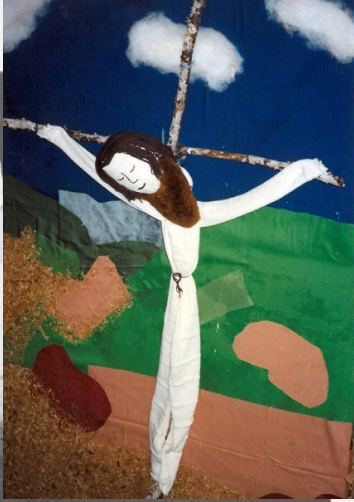
As Lindy Lou was 30 in July and Linda was overseas, we decided to make the "Teddy Bears' Picnic" the theme for the month and celebrated it on Lindy Lou's birthday. We had a special tape with Teddy Bear music on it which was great for dancing, paper Teddy Bears strung up across the Activity Centre and a Teddy Bear competition. (I think everyone won!) There was a wonderful cake for Lou and lots of goodies for lunch. Again this was a most enjoyable celebration.

Ranfurly Care

52 - 56 Ranfurly Road, Epsom, Auckland
Phone or Fax 630-3010



HOPE YOU ALL HAD A HAPPY EASTER!!



Every Afternoon I take part in the Activity Centre Group.
Jeanette decide to make Jesus on the Cross for Easter. We made him out of meat cloth. It was My idea to make the back ground in Material. We got The leaves and brown grass in the park.
I enjoyed making it. by Bobbie Carter

April 1996 FROM THE MANAGER

Since the last newsletter we have all enjoyed a truly long and beautiful summer and I am sure this will stand us in good stead for the winter to come. Fortunately, the winter hasn't really arrived meaning we all enjoyed that wonderful Easter break!

Everyone at Ranfurly enjoyed the fun of the fair at the Easter Show. As this news letter cover depicts, the week's theme in the Activity Centre concentrated on the meaning of Easter. Many residents celebrated Easter with their families and the others who stayed at home went to church and had lots of fun outings.

Everything is progressing smoothly at Ranfurly. We have been kept busy working on completing the Societies policies, as well as working on the photo scrapbooks, lifestyles plans and the student timetables. These latter are working very successfully.

Thanks again to support from the ASB Trust, the toilet refurbishment of the Activity Centre has now been completed and the facilities are now of a very high standard. New vinyl floor covering has been laid throughout the building and interior painting has been completed. New slim line venetian blinds have provided privacy and much improved light control.

Our plan is now to turn our attention to the

exterior of the Activity Centre. We are holding funds from our ASB grant for much needed repairs and maintenance. Specifications have been sent out for tender so hopefully work should commence shortly.

As a result of all the changes with respect to the Housing Corporation mortgages, our trustees were uncertain about the future of our current mortgage and handed on to Terry Debenham the responsibility for changing our mortgage to the ASB. This he has done most effectively and on very favourable terms over a shorter ten year period. Our outgoings will be slightly higher but as a result of restructuring we will save a considerable amount of interest over the term of the loan.

A General Meeting which was to have been held on 31 March 1996 was abandoned due to the lack of attendance. An informal meeting was held by the members present.

Our long time resident Janet Watters was taken very ill in November and now requires 24 hour private hospital care. We are very pleased to be able to be involved in arranging her accommodation at Elisabeth Knox Home. Bobbie Carter, one of our residents, works there as a volunteer in the occupational therapy section and therefore is able to see Janet daily. It also means that Janet's Ranfurly friends can visit her on a weekly basis.

Regrettably Chas Watters who lives at Taupo has resigned from any administrative roles at Ranfurly. We are all indebted to Chas and Colleen who were there to support us right from the outset and believed in the concept of Ranfurly Care. Their faith, foresight and their generosity with financial support, by donating a substantial sum of money, enabled us to secure the property. They then loaned us another substantial sum, interest free to tide us over the setting up period.

We had fun spending our hard earned Gala Day funds to purchase new Teal green French pleated velvet drapes for the hall which enhanced the overall appearance together with the polished floor and painted beams so the Hall is now looking very smart indeed.

WEEKEND BOOKS



**Jack Leigh
FOREWORD**

When Jeanette Baalbergen, a nurse of Mt Eden, went to work with the intellectually challenged, she found a challenge of her own: how best to express admiration for certain qualities in the people she met. She has done it with a book of poems, *Elders of Innocence* (Jaybee Press, \$17.95), which is a sensitive and affectionate tribute to the adult residents of the Ranfurly Care Society home at Epsom.

The book has 33 short poems, punctuated by 15 haikus. Where there is more than one poem about the same person, the first is a personality sketch and the others describe happenings, often capricious. They are written with delicacy and understated to the extent that only those in the know will get the full flavour. But the light touch conveys strongly, a tenderness and concern for the unnamed subjects.

The author hopes the book "may help to break down some of the barriers experienced in the field of disability."



Jeanette Baalbergen ... light, sensitive touch.
HERALD PHOTO: GLENN JEFFREY

She admires the people's tenacity for life, their ability to bounce back when something unforeseen occurs and the loving support of parents.

What special qualities are more apparent in the intellectually handicapped than in other people?

"It is their response to life. They are very innocent, accepting things as they are. Life is simple. While we want to be ourselves, they are themselves. They know no other way. You feel their innocence, their essence, and it is so beautiful."

As she says of someone in one of the poems, "by force of artless ways she stays secure..."

Baalbergen circulated a previous collection of poems called *Spun Silk Images* to her friends in 1993. Her Jaybee Press recently published a book for fellow poet John Martin, and her own latest collection is being sold at the Ranfurly Care Society and the Dead Poets Bookstore, Balmoral, with a proportion of proceeds going to the society.

Another poet Harry Cording will launch *Fast Food for Thought* at the above shop on February 4, with Baalbergen also reading from her latest collection.

Copies of Jeanette's book are available at the Office



10/1/96 Annette Wilson from the "International Inner Wheel" (district 291) kindly organised a barbecue/swim at the Remuera home of one of their members. Thank you to everyone for giving our people such an enjoyable evening.

Janette Baalbergen received an excellent review of her book of poetry 'Elders of Innocence' by Jack Leigh in the New Zealand Herald. She has kindly nominated a small donation to Ranfurly for each copy sold. Jeanette is now attending a part-time diploma course on 'Teaching People with Disabilities at Auckland College of Education'.

On 10 April everyone was invited to attend a farewell luncheon, where we made a big fuss of Carl. Carl was leaving Ranfurly after working for us for three years to travel to UK for further overseas experience and training. We are presently trying to employ a full time male with background training in the field of art and physical education. This is not proving easy! Carl had been living in the flat over the Activity Centre and we are pleased that George Butler, another Activity Centre team member, will come and live there now and act as a voluntary caretaker and Fire Warden.

Regrettably, our drama Therapist, Steve Miers-Jones has had to have a serious back operation and so the Drama course has been cancelled for the year.

Special Olympics had their second dance of the year in our Hall on 1 March. This was enjoyed by some of the residents and students. Since our hall has been refurbished Special Olympics have been invited to use it

rather than their May Road venue for their weekly indoor bowls. Margaret Hallenberg has accepted our offer and they held their first evening on March 21. We have heard that they are very pleased with their new bowling venue.

This year all residents and some of their student friends have been with the Activity Centre staff for their annual holiday to either Coroglen Lodge in Whitianga or to Wellington. This is the first newsletter for 1996 and as you can read we are still having quite a busy time at Ranfurly! God Bless You All!

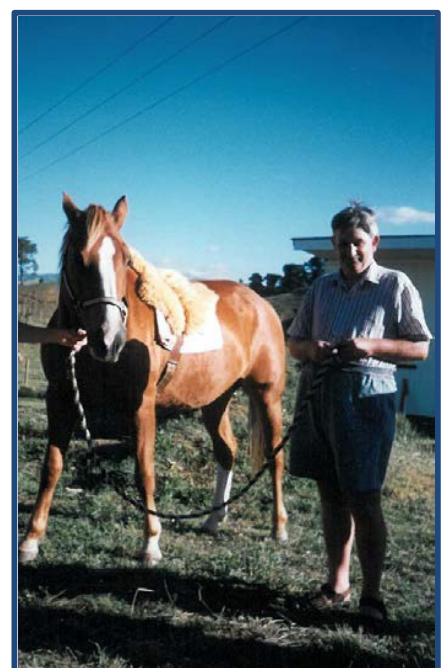
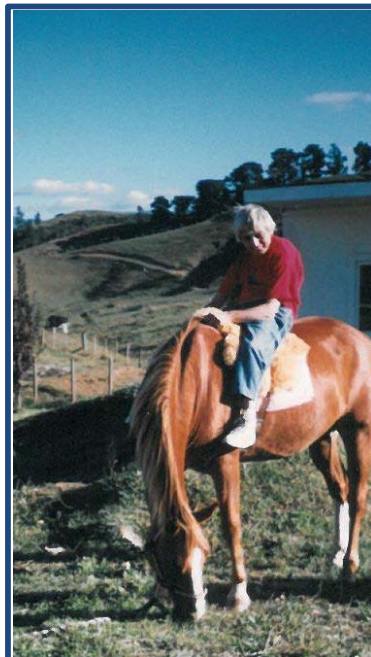
Holiday at Coroglen Lodge 27 February to 1 March 1996

Carl and Jeanette left Ranfurly at 10.15 am in the dark brown van on Tuesday 27 February 1996, with Susie, Laan, Janice, Pam, Gerard, Mark and Dean. We filled up with diesel and were on our way to Coroglen on the Coromandel Peninsular till Friday. We had lunch at a Rest Area on Hikuwai Road and arrived at Coroglen Lodge at 2.30pm. John, Ailsa and Muffin were there to welcome us.

About 4pm we were invited to watch John milking the cows in the milking shed over the road from the lodge. While we were in the milking shed Dean and Gerard were curious and decided to investigate what it was like to be in the pit underneath the cows? They soon found out when one of the cows decided to make a cow pat on the floor. It hit and splattered everywhere especially in the direction of Dean and Gerard. In hind sight it is agreed that everyone who visited the cow shed now knows one end of a cow from the 'udder'!

After showers Laan and Pam set the tables and Ailsa served a lovely meal of braised steak. For dessert we had pears and ice cream and after dinner everyone watched Coronation Street and Shortland Street

The next morning we woke to a brilliant sunny day and went to Hot Water Beach. The sand was too soft to take Susie's chair, so the others had a quick walk on the beach. Our next stop was Whitianga where we decided to take a ride on the Ferry to the Cooks Beach side of the inlet. Lunch was a feast of snapper and chips from Snapper Jack's fish shop. After being good Kiwis' by putting away the rubbish, we made our way back to the Lodges where Ailsa had organised some



horse-riding for us. The horse (Missy alias Piggy because it's always eating), arrived and everyone assembled behind the lodge in readiness for the great event. Everybody was keen to have a go at riding Missy but some found the process of getting to sit on the horse's back to be an insurmountable task! All manner of ways to mount a horse were investigated to make the process easier. An old foundation stone helped, a ladder was tried for others and finally Carl's hands to give a boost for the left leg whilst the person mounting was supposed to fling their right leg over the horse's rump!

This worked for some but others ended up with both legs extended over the horse's rump with the other helping hands guiding the people's legs and trunk into a riding position. Once on the horses back everyone rode very well. Missy was so very patient between mouthfuls of grass. After all this effort it was showers, roast dinner, steamed pudding dishes, a bit of TV and bed.

Thursday was another brilliantly sunny day. After breakfast etc. we all set out for Pauanui to see where Ian Duncan spends his summer holidays. We arrived back at Ailsa and John's about 12.30pm where they had prepared a BBQ lunch which was great.

At 2.30pm we all piled into the van and took off to Whitianga so Carl, Dean, Gerard and Janice could go on a fishing trip. Later John went in the Ute to pick them up from the boat and they arrived back about 8.30pm with a good catch of fish. We put the fish in the freezer and off to bed after a snack.

Friday dawned with a mist in the valley in front of the lodge which soon cleared into another brilliant day. We had breakfast and packed ready to go back to Auckland. We arrived home about 4.00 and taxis were waiting to whisk some of the people back to their homes. A great holiday enjoyed by all and some wanted to stay!



EXTRACTS FROM JENNY BRINDSON'S DIARY HOLIDAY TRIP TO EKATAHUNA AND WELLINGTON

On Sunday 10 March at 6.35 am Caresse, Jan, Anne and Jenny started out on our trip for Eketahuna and Wellington.

On our journey we stopped for a few minutes to watch an air show at Ohakea and saw a small plane doing aerobatics in the sky. In the afternoon Andre put a trailer on the farm bike and went over to the paddocks and down to the river. Jan nearly fell off, Anne had horse manure flick up on to her face from the wheels of the bike so we really had a great time yelling and screaming! By the river the rabbits got a really big fright with us arriving and Toby and Patch were busy chasing them. After an exhilarating ride we went to the milking sheds on a friend's farm to see the cows being milked. We stood behind a glass partition – just as well as a cow sneezed right at us. She really needed to wipe her nose!

We went to the ladies meeting at the church at Pahiatua and really enjoyed the singing and the friendliness of the folk there. When we got back to Eketahuna Anne and Andre dug potatoes. After lunch we left for Wellington. We were glad to get over the Rimutakas and called in at Upper Hutt.

Shortly after arriving we went to Kilbirnie – got some KFC and sat around Shelly Bay to eat it. The seagulls gathered around and we gave them something to eat and Jan chased them. Then we went for a drive around the waterfront – stopping at Worser Bay and then Seatoun. Jan, Anne and Jenny walked out along the wharf to see people fishing – a very grumpy fisherman did not appreciate Jenny taking a photograph of Jan and Anne – we think it was because he pulled in an empty line!

Following the cable car we went to Government buildings – everything seemed so big when we compared the new buildings with an older one – so a photo was taken to show the comparison.

We stopped at Mangaweka for morning tea, where we had a tasty snack and later saw a car on its side in Dessert Road. At Taupo we visited McDonalds for Lunch. By then we were all very keen to get home.....



A wonderful trip or in Jan's words "it was great!"



1995 Christmas Celebrations and dinner in the Hall for all the residents and families
From left to right row by row: Phyllis and Jan Green, Jan Mitchell and Mark Purdie
Pat and Susie Cooke, Linda Nelson and Tasha Hepworth, Dr Florence Fraser and Ian, and
Nonie and Tom Kiely.

Enclosed is a note from Tasha's mother: It has been wonderful having this last two months in NZ. We went up North taking Tasha in our Caravan, and staying with friends in Mangonui. When we returned Tasha went to Disabled Citizens at Dominion Road which she is really enjoying especially now she is earning her own money. Her brother Ben and I went to the South Island to interview a primary school teacher to take back to Pigeon Island.

We had no luck and returned to Auckland to organise shipping for all the things we need on the South Island. I have enjoyed having supper each evening with Tasha at Ranfurly. Next week we are going to Kati Kati where we have a caravan and then sadly back to Pigeon Island. Tasha will be able to visit friends from her school days in Cambridge on the way.

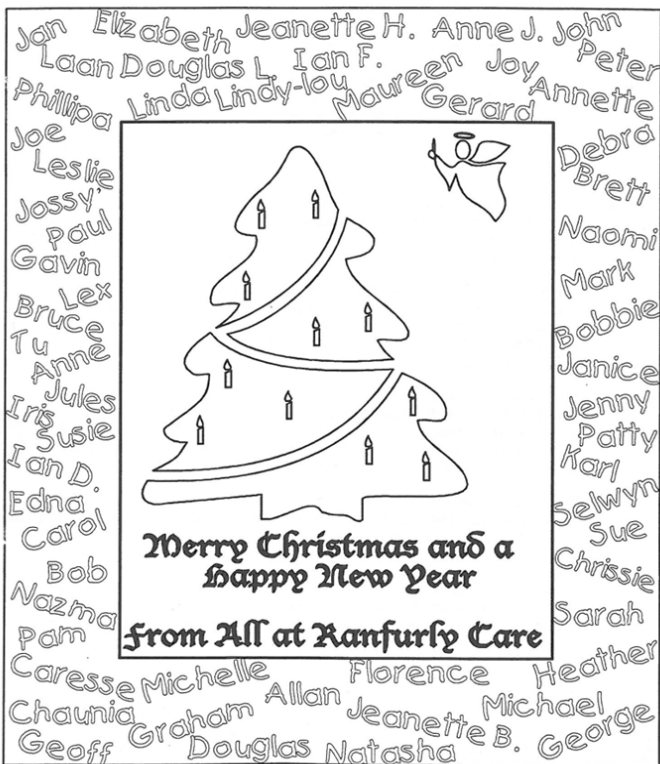


NEWSLETTER NO 16

DECEMBER 1996

Ranfurly Care

52 - 56 Ranfurly Road, Epsom, Auckland
Phone or Fax 630-3010



Reflecting on the seven months at Ranfurly since our last Easter newsletter reminds me of the many happenings that I will try to share with you all! I have just received a delivery of beautiful red and cream miniature roses together with a video and card from Catherine Woods. Last April, Catherine, my friend's daughter, asked if we would be interested in her spending time with us to make a video of a typical day in the Home and Activity Centre. As part of her requirements for a Unitec Diploma she needed to produce a video documentary and thought that Ranfurly Care, its staff, residents and students would make an interesting project.

Catherine had never met people with an Intellectual Disability before so I was very touched with her thank you card to me, which in part said; 'It was an amazing experience, I learnt so much and met some wonderful people – staff, residents and day comers. You are lucky to have such a rewarding job where you spend day after day with such SPECIAL caring people.' This endorses the impression gained when the community interacts with our people.

The AGM was well attended on Sunday 29 September. For those who are not

members, I have enclosed for your interest Dr. Florence Fraser's Presidential Report and Jan Mitchell's Chairman of Trustees 1996 AGM Report. The Audited accounts together with the budget for the coming year were also presented at the AGM.

Our funding and contract negotiations have all been successful. For the first time since our inception we now have a three year contract with North Health, the Residential service purchasers. The other good news is that we have received a real bonus from North Health - that of a final one-off mortgage subsidy payment of \$15,000.00 plus GST.

CFA have also renewed the Activity Centre contract and funding for the 1996/97 period, this time for 28 full time students. Presently forty one families are using the service either in a full or part time capacity. We have also been successful in obtaining a new grant of \$20,000.00 for "Establishment and Provision of Support Assistance for People with Disabilities in the Open Labour Market. " Quite a challenge!

The Parents' Meetings have been held each two months and Residents' Meetings at regular intervals. The latter provide the residents with an in-depth input into their daily lives reflecting decision making concerning their many varied interests.

Ranfurly Care is nearly five years old, with a wealth of learning and applied experience behind us. The time is now right to make some further stream - lining changes to the Society Rules. We feel the subsequent simplification will help determine our future success as envisaged at Ranfurly Care's inception by the founder guardian members.

Ideas were circulated inviting interested members to participate in a Strategic Plan Meeting held on the 20 August arranged to discuss proposed changes to the Rules of the Society. This successful meeting appointed a Steering Committee that met on 8 and 18 October to work on draft rule changes. The emerging draft incorporated the legal advice and input of two solicitors organised by Ross Green. The Steering Group then presented their draft changes to the larger group for their input, discussion and approval on 12 November, thus enabling us to adopt at the Special General Meeting on 10 December.

There has been a lot of time and thought expended on producing the final copy of our Policy Manual containing forty-four General and Staff policies. We are now finalising the content of a Staff Handbook incorporating the twenty-nine most relevant policies.

The major Activity Centre interior refurbishment and exterior painting contracted to the company of Nole Cole in May 1996 is really looking good. You are always welcome to call in for a cup of tea and visit. There have also been other improvements and replacements. The central locking system has been installed. It has been a Godsend as we used to have nearly fifty different keys. One can imagine the problems as people were always misplacing keys. The other plus is our new phone system enabling us to have three lines, eight extensions and a recall transfer.

The Home has purchased a commercial Maytag drier to replace the inherited twenty five year old and tired model. New net curtains have been made for all the bedroom windows, thanks to Mrs. Van Veen. The South wing has finally been gib-boarded, covering up the concrete blocks and a combination 21" TV/Video has been purchased for one of the smaller lounges. Presently we are trying to build up a collection of videos for leisure time use.

The grounds are well maintained and thanks to Florence, we are the proud owners of a glasshouse. Florence dismantled it at her home and then helped the PD workers to re-erect it on site. This will be a real asset for the gardening group.

Treez Company made an excellent job of cutting down the Melia tree. The wood has been cut and stored for firewood next winter and the stump reduced to ground level.

The students and staff of the Activity Centre appreciated our purchase of a new Mitsubishi 25" TV as our previously donated one has passed on.

Our tenant Christine Fletcher has completed property improvements in the basement that included painting and carpeting. This work has given the whole area a visual lift.

RESIDENTIAL HOME NEWS

Pam Barton's mother was admitted to a nursing home in April so Pam has moved in as a permanent resident.

The flu injections seemed to work again as fortunately this winter was virtually free of any sickness. Several residents love their Saturday Special Olympic ten-pin bowling held at Waitakere Super Strike.

Two did very well at the Bocce Ribbon Day in Kaitaia and several residents went to the Special Olympics farewell evening for Sandra Bluett.

Special Olympics continue to use our Hall for their weekly indoor bowls meeting. These popular weekly meetings started at Ranfurly in March. We were sorry to lose our friends Helena Matheson and family who have moved to Tauranga. Her replacement, Laurie McDonald, is now also a welcomed regular visitor. We are indebted to Special Olympics for the fun they provide holding regular Disco Dances in our hall. They attract a high attendance from the community and we love to be part of the fun. The final event this year is the Prize Giving Dance / Disco on Friday 6th December from 7.30 – 11.00pm.

We have recently employed two new staff for weekend outings to reach our goal of a staff to resident ratio of 1:3. The new staff are; Anne Lang and Paul Stephenson. Thanks to a contact of Maurice Hall's, Dan the Music Man is coming on Saturday mornings for a session with those residents who are not involved with ten-pin bowling. Both our people and Dan are enjoying these fun musical mornings.

The first of our yearly Resident's holidays is the Rotoroa trip from 3 – 10 December.

ACTIVITY CENTRE NEWS

On April 3, students were taken to see all the fun of the fair at the Easter Show.

On Thursday 22nd August, Nonie organised a visit from Mrs. Joan Bolger, Mrs. Brown her secretary and Mrs. Rosemary Horton. Their visit included a tour of both the Home and the Activity Centre. While in the Activity Centre, Mrs. Bolger was presented with a basket of their craftwork and a signed copy of Jeanette's book of poems "The Elders of Innocence". Mrs. Horton and Mrs. Brown also received similar gifts. They then toured the residence before leaving for their next engagement.

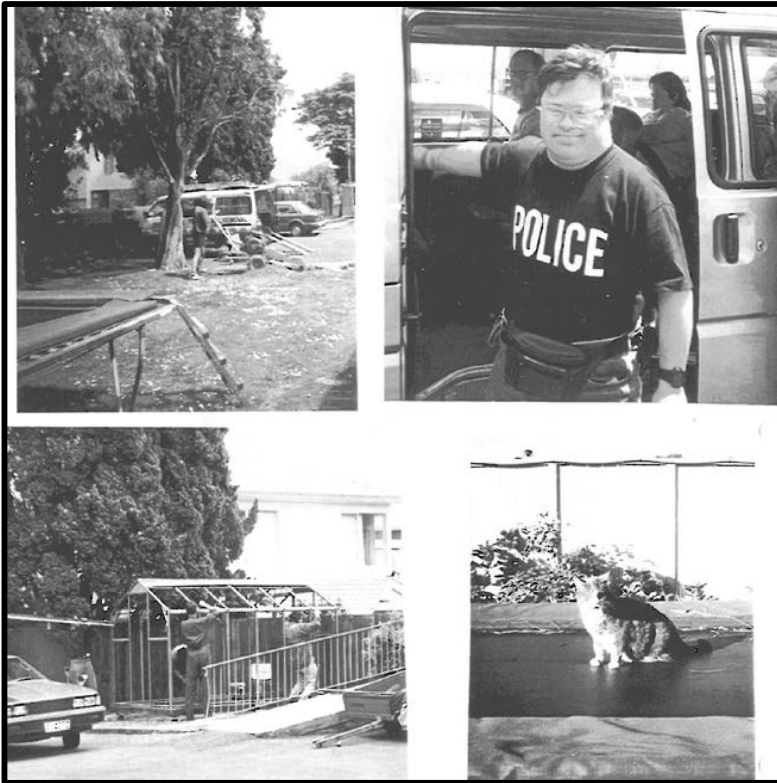
On September 4 we had a visit from Penny Eames of Arts Access Aoteoroa. She is a 'mine of

information' and is brimming with ideas. She also spoke of many sources of funding. I believe that this visit is the start of an exciting liaison.

Initially we experienced difficulties finding a replacement for Carl who had left to go to the UK. Brett Baker saved the day and he is now very much part of the team bringing his enthusiasm and motivation and many skills.

In the second term we had two College of Education students working on a part time basis. Then on November 18, eight Epsom Diocesan girls came to the Activity Centre as part of a very successful community integration course.

There are always birthday celebrations; this year's special in May was Ian Fraser's sixtieth birthday which we celebrated as a 'Rugby' theme day with pies, chips and balloons etc.



The Garage Sale organised on August 17 was a great success. Congratulations to the Activity staff for raising just on \$2000. Some of the Garage Sale money was used to purchase a new Janome sewing machine, suitable for use in the Activity Centre.

Ladies Auxiliary provided funds to go to the popular Ellerslie Flower Show on November 13. The rain managed to hold while we had a great afternoon enjoying the beauty of the many displays.

We have been able to organise some excellent staff training courses which included - A Ken Allen seminar on 'Volunteerism' on April 15 and a Workshop Presentation courtesy of North Health, on 'Affective and Non-Aversive Behavioural Intervention for People who have an Intellectual Disability and Challenging Behaviour'.

Another all day meeting was also organised by North Health on 'Quality Assurance' – this was compiled by Charm Torrance who is working on contract to assist smaller service providers to meet the North Health contract criteria.

A three day conference on 'Supported Employment for people with disabilities' was organised by ASENZ (Association for Supported Employment in New Zealand) in association with the Wellington College of Education. The conference called 'Working for Inclusion' was held in Wellington on October 23 to 25. We all gained valuable insight and information on the topics that included Workplace Culture; Natural Supports; Legal Issues; Career Planning; Consumer Perspectives; the latest Supported Employment Developments. The conference included a One Day Workshop with an excellent International Speaker, David Hagner.

Last week Staff attended a free 'Medlab' course on Infection Control.

There have been many, many visitors. To name just a few, Diane and Ben Hepworth from Pigeon Islands, as house guests; Christine Fletcher brought in Don McKinnon and his secretary to show him around the Ranfurly complex and to meet the Pottery Group; Hilary Reid called in with two overseas visitors, Sergio Jenkin from Chile and Targe from Mexico who were attending the Rehabilitation International Conference as parents.

Finally the sad news; our condolences to the Cooke family, especially Julie, Geoffrey, Susie and friends on the sad loss of Pat Cooke, Susie's mum who has always been so much a part of Ranfurly. We will all miss her many visits and involvement in the Society. Pat Cooke's sister-in-law, Ella Swinton, also passed away recently. We again extend our sympathies to Julie and Susie Cooke for the loss of their aunt.

Condolences to Maurie, Meredith, Selwyn, Carol and family on the loss of their father who had been unwell for some time. Sadly, Jim Meredith, Maurice's brother also died on October 10

Below are Function Reminder dates:

- Special General Meeting on Tuesday 10 December at 5.30pm for a light tea with the meeting at 6.00pm. Transport can be arranged if necessary as we need a full attendance of members to approve Society Rule changes
- Residential Family Christmas Buffet on Sunday 15 December at 5.00pm
- Dan the Music Man will entertain at 5.00pm with diner at 6:00pm
- Activity Centre Christmas Function with items, lunch and Santa's visit on Thursday 19 December from 12:00 noon to 2.30pm
- The Activity Centre closes on Thursday 19 December 1996 for one month's holiday. (Friday is a Staff Clean-up Day.)
- The Activity Centre reopens on Tuesday 21 January 1997
- Monday 20 January 1997 is a Staff-Manager day.

Activity Centre Trading Table. Their Craft Table also has a variety of small gift ideas including Jeanette Baalbergen's book 'Elders of Innocence' (A set of poems written about our people.)

Again a big 'Thank You' to all our friends and supporters. On that note I would like to personally wish you all a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

We have a hundred mixed Christmas Cards for sale at \$3.00 per pack of ten sold through the Office.

On behalf of the trustees and the Executive, they extend their best wishes for a very Happy Christmas, warm and sunny holidays and a healthy and successful 1997..

REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF TRUSTEES for the 1996 AGM

This year has seen the exterior of both the Activity Centre and the Recreation Hall repaired and repainted. The work has caused considerable disruption for everyone, and for this I am very sorry. However, the dramatic improvement to the appearance of the buildings makes it all worthwhile I feel.

Our Trustees have all worked well together and contributed their various skills and collective knowledge to the tasks at hand. I have greatly enjoyed working with them. It is with regret that we farewell Tom Kiely and Hewitt Harrison from our team, as they have both served the prescribed four years.

Tom was involved in the original efforts to obtain our property and has continued to contribute his considerable business expertise ever since.

Hewitt undertook the mammoth task of liaising with the architect and builders on the refurbishment, which turned out to be a bigger task than anyone anticipated. The end result owes much to Hewitt's persistence.

The Trustee Accounts are in a healthy condition. The mortgage has been transferred from Housing Corporation to Auckland Savings Bank on very favourable terms.

Now that the building refurbishments are largely completed we are in a position to plan and budget for the goals outlined in our Strategic Plans, including providing separate accommodation for elderly residents and a 'retired' lifestyle for them.

It will be exciting to implement these plans which will keep Ranfurly at the forefront of providers of services for people with intellectual disability.

Jan Mitchell
Chairman of Trustees
29 September 1996

PRESIDENTS REPORT FOR THE 1996 AGM

As we approach our 5th anniversary, I believe we can look back with pride at our achievements. With wonderful community support we have turned a very run down neglected complex into an exciting progressive facility. Presently we have 15 residents with a popular short stay facility and 22 on the waiting list. The Activity Centre has 42 on the roll with an average daily attendance of 30 students.

Our dedicated staff in both the Residence and the Activity Centre lead by Linda are a very vital part of our success. The health, happiness and achievements of our people reflect their dedication. It is indeed pleasing that we have had very few staff changes this year, which has led to very good team work.

This year we have signed a three year contract with the RHA giving us the opportunity to plan for three years ahead, something we have not been able to do in the past.

We have also been granted \$20,000 to develop supported full-time employment for suitable people in the Activity Centre.

There are also our volunteers who do all manner of tasks to help make us who we are. To me it is also a wonderful example to our people as they see people helping for the joy of it and because they wish to without seeking monetary reward.

Then there are our involuntary volunteers in the form of the PD group who come once a fortnight from the Justice Department. They do a lot of the ground maintenance as well as many other jobs about the property.

The Executive over the two years I have been President have given me wonderful support and I believe we have worked well as a team. Change must come, with it, new ideas and outlooks though sometimes it can be hard to accept that things can be improved upon. One change in the Executive is the loss of Nonie Kiely who has been a member since the very early days and has proved to be an outstanding fundraiser giving countless hours and endless energy to the task. Thank you very much Nonie. I hope you will still be happy to help us with valuable advice in the future.

Over the past 5 years we have been fired with the challenge of establishing Ranfurly Care and we have achieved a great deal but there is no time to sit back and rest on our laurels. We are a small society and we need input from everyone. I was saddened in April when at the General Meeting we did not have a quorum. Also, in August there was no interest taken in the nominations for the Executive and Trustees. Is this complacency rearing its ugly head? It can have no place in Ranfurly Care Society if we are going to continue to develop and grow. Please don't let this wonderful society slide. We want our people to achieve and learn so much by example.

Dr Florence A Fraser
29 September 1996

OUR ART GROUP

Since Jules and Carl left we did not have anyone to take groups for art. One day Jenny wanted a backdrop for her puppets so Jeanette decided to try her hand at it. Most of the students were able to assist in this project, as the medium used was old flour, water and dyes. No one wanted to get their hands dirty so students wore plastic gloves and had a go at plastering the mixture onto hessian; blue for the sky, green for the hills and brown and other earthy colours for the foreground.

It was very large at 185 x 220 cm. This enabled everyone to have a go. It was a lot of fun and though it was completed in May, it is still in one piece, though I have noticed a few small insects crawling over it at times.

Because the above exercise was so enjoyable, Jeanette decided to try her hand at other artwork when the art room was ready for use in July. Since then, art groups have taken part in; group paintings, abstract paintings, made pasta picture frames, sprayed with gold paint, made piñatas (a Mexican version of a lolly scramble for Christmas) and are in the lengthy process of making a totem pole or Ranfurly identity pole. The student's artwork is displayed on the walls of the art room and

each student will eventually have an art portfolio made out of wallpaper. If anyone has leftover vinyl wallpaper that is not too smooth, the Ranfurly art group would certainly appreciate it

JOYS Activity Centre Report

This has been an amazing year seeing our people achieve their goals. With encouragement and enthusiasm they have managed to gain many skills while enjoying themselves.

COMMUNICARE – A group of four attend once a week at Remuera Centre. It encourages communication, mixing with the community in a range of activities. The group also participated in the Communicare Games, gaining certificates in the true spirit of good sportsmanship. The group look forward to going to Communicare each week.

EDUCATION GROUP – There are six people who have individual tuition. Suitable programmes are chosen for each person's individual needs. They have all worked hard, made steady progress and gained confidence and self-esteem.

CHOCOLATE MAKING – This is a very popular activity as you might imagine. All of the participants are full of enthusiasm in making these tasty delights. It is gratifying to see the results being sold as fast as they are made!

CRAFTS – We make things such as fridge magnets with memo holders, pompom bears, felt cards, stained glass window charms to mention only a few. It gives our people great satisfaction in being able

to complete an item in one session. They gain great confidence in being able to achieve so quickly.

SHELLS – In this craft we collect shells from beaches, gluing them onto wooden boxes, picture frames or clay flower pots. Patience has been achieved as it takes time to choose and glue shells on these

items. When we polyurethane the finished product, we are rewarded by the enhancement of the beautiful colours in the chosen shells.

PRESSED FLOWERS – This is a relatively new craft enabling us to choose flowers, learning their names, and seeing which flowers and leaves can be successfully pressed. We have made some lovely cards

with the pressed flowers. Now that we have three presses, we hope to do a lot more of this work next year. This craft also has the benefit of providing a nature study walk during the collection stage.

PHOTOGRAPHY – Each person has their individual scrap book. Everyone loves photos so we also have everything recorded in albums. I hope to start a photography group early next year. Please come and see our photographs. You will be most welcome.

Joy Jane

SIGN LANGUAGE GROUP

Our group format has been changing over the past Monday morning sessions. We have created a theme to enhance teaching and learning. This is to show to our students why sign language is a vital form of communication.

Our objective was for the students to interact and acknowledge that many people don't use speech or words and instead rely on gestures and signs. Many are naturally misunderstood or ignored.

We have been so impressed with the weekly progress seen with the students who really support each other as they use signing in their daily communication. Expression is the most basic of signing used.

Role play has been a great lever and we all have had lots of fun in this group while learning to sign. There is lots of opportunity for growth in this group. George and Jenny

POTTERY GROUP

During the past months, our Ranfurly Potters have been busy preparing their pieces for Christmas presents. Each member of the group who was able to use the pottery wheel had a good opportunity to create something special. We really did have some fun as sometimes the clay just changes its mind.

Like every good potter, we were very proud of the end result. It has been impressive to see the support that each student has shown to each other. I believe we have a really good pottery team.

VISITING

Each Monday afternoon a group visit Janet Watters at Elizabeth Knox Home. Participants are very keen and when the weather is fine we bring Janet back to Ranfurly to visit old friends and have afternoon tea. The Knox Home staff are happy about this and have been trying to find ways for Janet

to visit Ranfurly every afternoon. Unfortunately, no one has come up with the answer yet. It would be appreciated if someone could come up with a way to get Janet here in the afternoons.

SHOPPING

Wednesday morning sees Jenny and Jeanette, with a group of six students head off to Pak'n'Save for the Activity Centre's shopping supplies. Students in this group are very helpful and great at unpacking our purchases when we get home.

THE RANDOM NOISE BAND

A large group of students get together on Wednesday afternoons with Joy, Jeanette and / or George with their percussion instruments. Jeanette plays the autoharp. Recently Karen, Mather Taylor's support person, has added interest by playing the old guitar that belongs to Ranfurly..... Thanks, Karen!

BAKING GROUP

Thursday morning is very popular as all sorts of mouth-watering smells issue from the Activity Centre kitchen. The baking group has been going very well with students very keen to help in all aspect of baking procedures. The result of Thursday morning's effort is sampled for morning tea on Fridays.

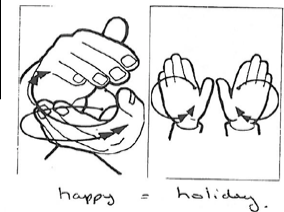
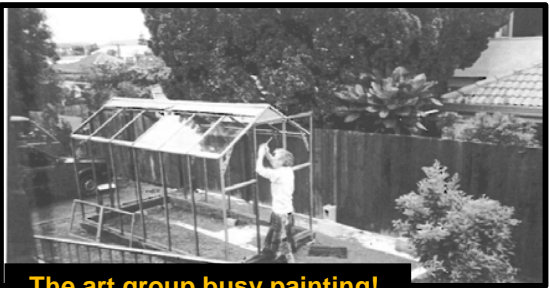
Thursday afternoon used to be for computer enthusiasts, but about two months ago, George and Jeanette decided to join their groups and write letters to political prisoners through Amnesty International. Before doing this, it was decided to learn something about the Tibetan way of life from an activity book. We learnt about a typical Tibetan family before the Chinese took over. After, we had studied Tibet. The computer group typed out a letter and sent it to the Chinese authorities requesting that they release a nun whose only crime had been to write songs and talk about freedom. Members of the group, who could write, wrote letters and others made pictures and / or signed letters.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from Jeanette and members of the above groups.

On behalf of the Trustees and the Executive may I extend our best wishes for a very Happy Christmas, warm and sunny holidays and a healthy and successful 1997.
Teddy Martin, President

ENCLOSED WITH THE NESLETTER IS A COPY OF OUR SMART NEW 'BROCHURE' We have plenty of copies so do not hesitate to ask for more copies

To the right the Woodwork room and below Dr. Florence Fraser erecting the glass house she donated us



NEWSLETTER

HAPPY NEW YEAR, HAPPY EASTER AND HAPPY MOTHERS DAY!!!

Once again I have enjoyed reminiscing over the happenings since our last newsletter. The long Indian summer has been a real bonus for enjoying our many varied community activities. There is always a tale to tell with our involvement in the three business centres: the new service - provision of 'Supported Employment', the Activity Centre day programmes and the Residential Home, including respite care. My job offers me continual personal extension combined with many new challenges. Most importantly, I feel very privileged to be working with, and helping so many exceptionally nice people. It is frustrating that the news media emphasizes the negative while in reality there are so many good things happening in the community.

A big welcome to three new students and their respective family's who have joined the Activity Centre. They are Stephanie Fraser aged 24 whose parents have just returned from five years in the Philippines, K Yee Kan aged 22 who has recently left Lynnfield College, and Janice Boyle who has lived for over 50 years at Templeton, since the age of three and is now living at Gift House in Balmoral.

The Christmas break up on 19 December held in Activity Centre was a very happy occasion thanks to the staff and Executive members who helped to prepare a sit-down lunch for nearly 80 people. Father Bernard Kiely gave a blessing and we concluded the festivities with a visit from 'Santa' who distributed gifts donated by our friends, the 'Women's Auxiliary'. Everyone enjoyed the relaxed 'Residents Families Christmas Buffet' on 15 December attended by 39 family members. There were also two dances in December. Spectrum Care held a dance and the Special Olympics held a Prize giving Dance/Disco.

Nearly all the residents have been able to spend quality time with their families and enjoy a fun summer holiday with Ranfurly staff. Brett & Jenny took ten residents and students to Rotoroa Island for a week from 3-10 December. Then Jo and George took six to Snell's Beach for a week from 18-21 March. You will enjoy reading accounts of these trips elsewhere in the newsletter.

In January everyone participated in either the Fullers Rangitoto

day trip or Fullers Coffee Cruise enjoying our attractive Waitemata Harbour.

The high attendance at the Special General Meeting on December 10 was very pleasing. There were 37 members in attendance (33 were required to make up a quorum). The certificate of Change of Name to 'Ranfurly Care Society Incorporated' has been forwarded to the Commerce Dept., who have accepted and registered the 'Rule' amendments.

Our General Meeting was held in conjunction with our Fifth Anniversary celebrations on 8 April. Congratulations and welcome to the new Executive led by Jan Mitchell as President.

We sent out 130 invitations for the fifth year celebrations to friends, staff, family and all other recipients of the newsletter. Much time was spent organising and decorating the hall, planning food

We invite you to the
opening of our
FIRST ART EXHIBITION

at RANFURLY CARE, 52-56 Ranfurly Road, Epsom on
FRIDAY 22nd November from 5.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

Wine, orange juice and nibbles will be served from 5.00 p.m.
Official Opening at 5.30 p.m.

Our artists have produced some interesting work with eye-catching qualities
of colour and design, after attending an Art Course
at Whiteliff College of Art and Design.

Do join us for this "CELEBRATION OF CREATIVITY". You are welcome to bring
someone else but please advise us of the numbers attending.

The artwork will be sold by silent auction on Friday evening.
However, the exhibition will be open on
SATURDAY 23rd from 10.00 a.m. till 4.00 p.m.

RSPV: Linda on 524-0511
PK: 630-3010
Dr. Ian PK: 524-0501
Dr. Nania PK: 520-5242

We thank ARTS ACCESS AOTEAROA
for their support and encouragement
with our art.
Also JOHN HORNBER and ROBIN
BARNABY from Whiteliff College of
Art and Design.

RANFURLY CARE SOCIETY for people with intellectual disabilities

etc. for the anniversary. Thank you Florence for the special cake you made for the occasion, cut by our Patron Mrs. Colleen Mills who was ably supported by the residents. Thank you also for the cake you provided for the Dolphin Theatre fundraising evening and the Christmas cake for the residential home. We did appreciate all the messages we received from people thanking us for a casual and enjoyable evening.

I enjoyed spending time writing up the history of Ranfurly, and created a comprehensive file from old records, photo albums and newspaper clipping information. (See below) I wrote two histories of Ranfurly - a longer one for the permanent record and a shorter one to hand out at a meeting as a highlights souvenir complementary to our brochure, a synopsis of our first five years of service.

News from the home.... we have been given a Panasonic Genius Microwave by the Ladies Auxiliary. The previous one, inherited from I.H.C. had a faulty door and was very tired. Julie has had a discreet plaque made in memory of her mother Pat Cooke, which has been placed on the outdoor furniture we were able to purchase thanks to donations received in lieu of flowers. The 'Devon' set consists of six director chairs, an umbrella and an oblong table. For additional security in the home we have fitted grilles to the windows of the woodwork room and the laundry in the basement. Bill Jackson donated the funds to recover Maureen's two Parker Koll chairs to match the previously donated vibrating chair. They are excellent and very comfortable We had been saving towards more lounge furniture when an anonymous donation arrived to be used for general purpose, proving once more that 'miracles' do happen.

Douglas Lampitt came into the home on 7 April in an emergency situation as our friend Ursula Lampitt was admitted to St Josephs Hospice and sadly died on 9 April. Ursula will be sadly missed as a special friend, founding parent member, supporter and advocate for all at Ranfurly. She was a dedicated worker with the Ladies Auxiliary and will be greatly missed by us all. We extend our deepest sympathy to Douglas, Diana, Peter and family.

Anne Johnston, one of our residents is very proud of the certificate she received for her participation and fundraising in World Vision 20 Hour Famine on 14 March. The residents have been enjoying the season of Special Olympics Indoor Bowls which started 17 March in our hall.

From the Activity CentreWelcome to Paul Kelly Moore, our very latest well qualified staff member, a real asset to Ranfurly. Congratulations to Jenny Brinsdon on completing the AUT Department of Sport and Health Science Fitness Foundation Course.

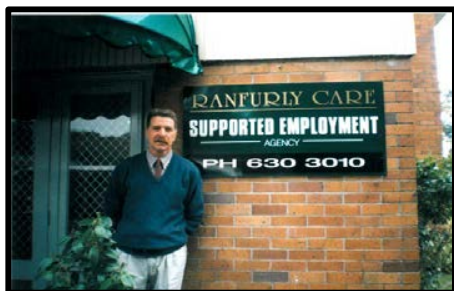
The staff were thrilled to be able to purchase a cross country treadmill at a discount with the remaining funds from last years' Garage Sale. It has proved to be a big success with a number of cautious students gaining confidence daily. With great enthusiasm generated by our student's interest we currently hold 3 to 4 Gym programmes a week in addition to our other fitness regimes.

Thanks to Jenny and Brett we now have a magnificent Puppet Theatre designed for fun and learning communication through the medium of puppetry.

Our deepest sympathy to Hilary Reid and her family for the sudden loss of our dear friend Graeme on 8 May and also to Bobbie Carter and her family for the sad loss of our dear friend Judy.

A big thank you to all our friends and supporters - 'Au revoir' and God Bless you all. *Linda Nelson*

SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT



Since commencing the Supported Employment position, I have to admit it has been both challenging and rewarding. I have committed three days a week, namely Monday, Wednesday and Friday to this position and on the other two days I continue with my work at the Activity Centre as before.

My involvement in the business community has evolved gradually as I've become more confident and able to approach a wide variety of prospective employers. We had a strategy of starting out small to ensure what targets we could achieve within our limited funding budget. I must thank the staff of Ranfurly both residential and Activity Centre for their support and in particular those students involved in the project. I have developed a very supportive network of colleagues within the Supported Employment community and other related areas of the disability sector. I believe I will achieve the goals and targets we have set ourselves. Congratulations to Pam Barton in achieving our first success, acting as hostess at a local car valet and service station.

George Butler

A Letter from the President.

Hello everyone!

Since our last newsletter the Society's system of administration has been running streamlined for simplicity and convenience. We previously had two committees, the Executive committee dealt with the day to day matters and those affecting people, and the Trustees committee dealt with property and capital decisions.

In the beginning when there was so much to be done on all fronts – an organisation to establish and system standards to set, as well as massive property refurbishments to organise – it was sensible to separate the two functions. However, now things are running reasonably smoothly, it was decided that one body could cope. The new Executive has members from both the previous bodies and I am confident that we are a strong team with a diversity of skills. The members as well as myself are:

Ross Green (Vice Presidents)

Julie Cooke

Dr Florence Fraser

Tom Kiely

Ken Franklin

Maurice Hall

There are two things that I am particularly happy about at the moment.

The first is the success of our very new Supported Employment initiative with interesting jobs found in the community for two people. Congratulations to the staff involved in making this possible. It is wonderful that opportunities can be found for those who want them.

The other thing I am pleased about is we have been able to achieve one of the goals in our Strategic Plan by replacing our elderly mini bus with a smart and very comfortable 8 seater vehicle of a type widely used by families in the wider community, helping our people to blend in more on trips and outings. We still have our newer van for transport when a larger group is appropriate.

Best wishes to everyone

Jan Mitchell

Ranfurly Care Society Reflections Of Five Years of Achievement and Development Growth

On 10 October 1991 we took our tender to Landcorp, offering \$665,000 for the property at 52-56 Ranfurly Road. Later a donation of \$30,000 was pledged through 1ZB Radio talkback.

On 18 November, Housing Corporation advised us that the maximum loan of \$604,485 which included a loan fee of \$5,985 had been approved. The overwhelming generosity of members and the sympathetic public had raised sufficient funds for the deposit. John Hanning, solicitor, accepted John Radley's agreement for the sale and purchase of the Ranfurly Road property at the agreed price of \$665,000.

- On 2 February 1992 the Residential Home started with five residents.
- On 30 March 1992 the Activity Centre opened with twenty students.
- We now have thirteen fulltime residents, help twenty four families with short stay respite care, and students from forty two families attend the Activity Centre.
- For all their efforts a big thank you to everyone who has supported us through our five years of achievement and development growth either by thought, word or deed. Everyone contributed to make our dream materialize into reality.
- There were so many donations made by a variety of individuals, groups and Trusts - far too

many to in fact list here. However, we must acknowledge the ASB Trust who has in total donated \$345,000 to help us achieve a full refurbishment of the site and its facilities.

- None of this would have been possible without the dedication of our wonderful staff, whose jobs were not made easier by the stream of workmen on and around the site and its facilities.

A number of highlights over this five year period were:-

- The Gala Opening Day
- Our First Van, donated by the Fisher Trust
- Christmas Gifts and continuous donations through street stalls and fund raising by the Women's Auxiliary Group
- Mo's Wedding at Ranfurly
- The Enchanted Forest drama production
- Fund Raising Events
- Jeanette Baalbergen's book 'Elders of Innocence'
- The yearly AGM and Christmas dinners together
- Residents Holidays
- Finally we would like to thank our various committee members and our funders North Health, Income Support and the Community Funding Agency

Activity Centre News

Joys Group Terracotta Pots: This is a new craft we are doing, decorating the pots by placing small pieces of broken china or tiles into grout applied to the pot. The group is full of enthusiasm when breaking the items into small pieces then putting on their gloves to imbed the pieces in the grout. Another technique is the use of decoupage to embellish the pots. The group love painting the pots in different colours before cutting out designs and gluing them onto the pots. After varnishing an amazing effect is produced.

Glass Painting: This group paint small glass jars so we can use them as candle holders. They also make beeswax candles to place inside the finished jars.

Preserves: With so many fejoas on my tree at home, we thought that making several batches of chutney would be a nice change from chocolate making!

Introducing Paul

Well, I know it may seem funny to introduce myself after being here for three months, but there are still some folks I haven't met. As you can see my name is Paul and I am a 36 year old Englishman. Up until January 25 – this year – I have always lived in a village called Stanwell, just west of London and next door to Heathrow Airport. My wife Jo is a 'kiwi' from Wellington. We have come to Auckland so that we can get to see more of her mum (in Wellington) and also so Jo can become a student at the Bible College of New Zealand in Henderson.

I have worked full-time in both residential and day care units since 1980. My work has covered pre – school to 90 year olds. (One friend was 100 on 30 May). I have also worked with physically disabled adults and children so as you can see it's a wide range. I am a sports fan and my two favourite games are soccer (I support Arsenal in England) and American Football (I follow the Washington Redskins)! I have been involved in my previous church's life, both within the church services and social events. I like a wide range of music, and particularly like Elton John whom I've seen live in concert seven times! Jo and I arrived in Auckland on February 9 and I worked my first day at Ranfurly on the 15th with the Ten Pin Bowling group. At the Activity Centre I am involved with the current affairs group, music and movement, swimming and education, as well as continuing to support Ten Pin Bowling on Saturdays and Indoor Bowls on Monday nights. Thank you for the warm welcome I have been given by everyone and please come and say 'Hello' if you haven't met me, you'll recognise me by my "Pommie" accent!

More Activity Centre News – Jenny and Brett

Monday's walking groups are going to various places of historical and cultural interest. One trip they really enjoyed was the walk down the Waitakere Dam. A lot of interest was shown in the workings of the dam.

Gym & Fitness Groups: A lot of encouragement and guidance is needed by staff for this group. There is a growing number who are now benefiting from the use of the cross trainer and are continuing to extend their personal goals.

Woodwork: This is progressing at a steady pace with fold up stools soon to be completed. This involves students in sanding, painting and the use of various tools to dress the timber

Puppetry: This is proving a little difficult and progress is slow, but hopefully we will have a show in the latter part of the year.

Water Walking: There is a lot of enthusiasm in this group for the Wednesday water walking sessions.

We have acquired, through generous donation by the Henderson Aquatic Centre, a flotation belt for each member of the group. Water walking involves each person wearing a floatation belt and walking in a depth of over six feet. There is no pressure on the joints and each muscle group in the body is exercised. The water walking sessions are followed by a hot shower.

Jeanette – studying for a diploma in ‘Teaching People with Disabilities’

I believe that the guidance and knowledge I have gained over the last 18 months whilst attending Auckland College of Education has enhanced my role as a support-worker in the Activity Centre. Concepts taught at college have challenged me to think in broader terms about supporting people with intellectual disabilities. This has led to the implementation of strategies that I believe have increased the quality of life for our students. My thinking has been stimulated and challenged to adapt various ideologies suggested at college into activities that are stimulating and practical for Ranfurly’s students, for example:

Amnesty International: Searching for age-appropriate activities led to a group of five enthusiastic students and their support person, joining Amnesty International. This was achieved by George and I combining groups towards the end of last year, to study Amnesty International so that we could determine whether it would be a viable proposition for our students. We did this by looking at the plights of nuns who were imprisoned by the Chinese Authorities in Tibet for singing ‘Freedom’ songs. We used an Activity book about Tibet to give the students the background of Tibet. We learned about Tibetan customs, including cooking simple Tibetan Food, the geography of Tibet and a number of other issues. When new groups were formed at the beginning of this year five people were keen to continue with Amnesty International and we are now members. Two parents assisted us with first assignment by helping their daughters write urgent letters requesting authorities investigate the disappearance of certain people in Sri Lanka. I am very grateful to those parents. Amnesty offers the group worthwhile material, such as writing letters to heads of governments and the writing up of simple minutes of each meeting, for students to learn and use computer skills and participate in a worthwhile cause in the World- Community. *Jeanette*

RANFURLY STUDENTS STUDY ART AT WHITECLIFF COLLEGE

‘ An exciting new project now places eight students and two support staff in a ten week course at Whitecliffe, a respected Art School

This course has been running very successfully for some time now. Our students are taught by Whitecliffe tutors and assisted by third year art students. Now that the tutors and other students have got to know our people they are enthusiastic about teaching them and impressed by the standards of work Ranfurly are producing. This is a wonderful opportunity for education in a mainstream college, as well as being an educational opportunity for us it is an excellent way for other students at the college to get to know some people with intellectual disabilities – there are benefits for everyone involved.

It is planned that later in the year to have an ART EXHIBITION, watch out for this! Our staff are learning a lot through these art classes, which is a big help to the classes we hold at Ranfurly. Jeanette dreams of an art studio for all people with disability to enjoy.....who knows - we all know that some dreams DO come true!

POTTERY: The Tuesday potters have been busy! We have lately been using a different type of

clay and this seems to be working well judging by our results. We prefer to use white clay from Nelson, but supplies of this are now quite limited. Some of the team have been making special pottery for birthdays etc. and they really have to be patient as in the cold weather the clay takes much longer to dry. Our plans have changed for the winter months. In conjunction with Brett and his woodwork group, we can swap around and give the students the chance to partake in both activities. Pottery is very much a learning process and we are all getting better and more confident with time. They are a great team and we have lots of laughs and enjoy our pottery sessions.

Educational/Social Group: The focus of his group is to allow students the flexibility of combining education learning with the wider community. We develop skills in counting by going out into the streets, shops or a Shopping Mall. We might look at addresses, the registration numbers of cars, articles in shop windows, or sometimes go into a book shop. Being part of a group encourages students to support each other, and they respond well to a support network. Getting out and about gives the group a variety of experiences. Each student has their own material and I am pleased with all the individual efforts and achievements.

General News

This year many Auckland Service providers got together to form a new group to be known as 'Not for Profit Disability Service Providers'. Several MP's have attended the regular meetings to discuss current issues of concern. We need to create a direct communication link to Wellington as Auckland has the largest group of people with disabilities but very little input into decision making. The new group has submitted individual and group submissions concerning a recent Wellington National Health Core Committee discussion document entitled 'Who is Responsible for the Provision of Support Services for People with Disabilities?' (The NHC committee was established in 1992 to advise the Minister of Health on priorities with respect to public funding for health and disabilities and effective delivery of these services at an affordable price!)

The Auckland Regional Council has now completed the task of issuing new compulsory ID cards designed to give tighter control for their Total Mobility scheme. The criteria of eligibility for the 50% subsidized taxi fares is that the recipient is incapable of using public transport unaided.

The staff enjoyed the opportunity to take most of our students to see 'The Phantom of the Opera'. We took advantage of a discounted \$20 seating in the balcony area, made available to community and volunteer organisations.

"WELCOME TO HOLLAND"

I am often asked to describe the experiences of raising a child with a disability - to try to help people who have not shared that unique experience to understand it, to imagine how it would feel. It's like this...

When you're going to have a baby, it's like planning a fabulous vacation trip - to Italy. You buy a bunch of guide books and make wonderful plans. The Colosseum, Michelangelo's David. The gondolas in Venice. You may even learn some handy phrases in Italian. It's all very exciting.

After months of eager anticipation, the day finally arrives. You pack your bags and off you go. Several hours later the plane lands. The Stewardess comes in and says "Welcome to Holland".

"Holland?" you say. "What do you mean Holland? I signed up for Italy. All my life I've dreamed of going to Italy." But there's been a change of flight plan. They've landed in Holland and there you must stay. The important thing is that they haven't taken you to a horrible, disgusting, filthy place, full of pestilence, famine and disease. It's just a different place.

So you must go out and buy new guidebooks. And you must learn a whole new language. And you will meet a whole new group of people you would never have met.

It's just a different place. It's slower-paced than Italy, less flashy than Italy. But after you've been there for a while and you catch your breath, you look around and you begin to notice that Holland has windmills. Holland has tulips. Holland even has Rembrandts.

But everyone you know is busy coming and going from Italy, and they're all bragging about what a wonderful time they had there. And for the rest of your life, you will say, "Yes, that's where I was supposed to go. That's what I had planned." And the pain of that will never, ever, ever go away, because the loss of that dream is a very significant loss.

But if you spend your life mourning the fact that you didn't get to Italy, you may never be free to enjoy the very special, the very lovely things about Holland.

- by Emily Pearl Kingsley

**Introducing.....
Sydney Slapstick, looking for a new home.**


Sydney was kindly made and donated to Ranfurly by Mrs Wah Chong, to be raffled. Tickets at \$1.00 each can be purchased from our office or from Margaret Van Veen, phone: 520 5350

Drawn at the A.G.M. in September.

*Auckland Special Olympics invite you to a Disco on Friday 11th July at 7.30 p.m.
At Ranfurly Care Hall*

*Admission: \$5.00
Bring some biscuits & a friend*

More information: 6307684 or 8189176



Some residents are staying through the holiday period and we have many short stay visitors. The Activity Centre will re-open a week earlier on 12 January to help working families.

Once again, thank you to all those who have supported us by your thoughts, words, and deeds or by financial assistance.

Au revoir and God bless.

Linda



Judy Carter

On June 15th Ranfurly lost another staunch supporter when our good friend Judy Carter passed away.

Judy and Des were committee members on the I.H.C. Cornwall Branch Committee when I first met Judy, and she firmly believed in what we were striving for at Ranfurly and threw herself into the struggle whole -heartedly. In the years that followed she has always been there when help was needed, and the delightful little drawing of our building on our letterhead is a testament to her considerable artistic talents. She was also a keen photographer with the knack of catching the best moments of Ranfurly events. Our wonderful albums of photographs are a tribute to her patience and skill.

Judy was a devoted mother to her three daughters and made their childhood memories very happy with her special talent for enjoyment of nature, beauty and the simple pleasures of life.

She worked as a school-teacher for many years and loved this work, enriching the lives of many children.

In later years she threw herself enthusiastically into painting, going to art classes and displaying considerable talent.

She will be sadly missed by all of us. Sincere sympathy to Bobbie, Margaret, Lynn, Des and the grandchildren.



Jan Mitchell



Graeme Reid

We were very saddened by the recent death of Founder Member and staunch supporter, Graeme Reid. Graeme played a vital role in the period we were setting up the Society, with all the complications associated with putting a Constitution in place and arranging the purchase. His assistance and expertise were indispensable. He has helped and supported us ever since with advice and assistance when we have altered our Constitution on two occasions till we finally have the stream-lined version we use today.



A tireless advocate for people with intellectual disabilities, he was both Auckland President and National Vice President for I.H.C. in the past. On the international scene Graeme was well-known and respected in disability circles, as a councillor on the International League of Societies for Persons with Mental Handicap. He represented N.Z. at many overseas conferences over the years and contributed greatly to the high regard in which N.Z. is held in other countries.

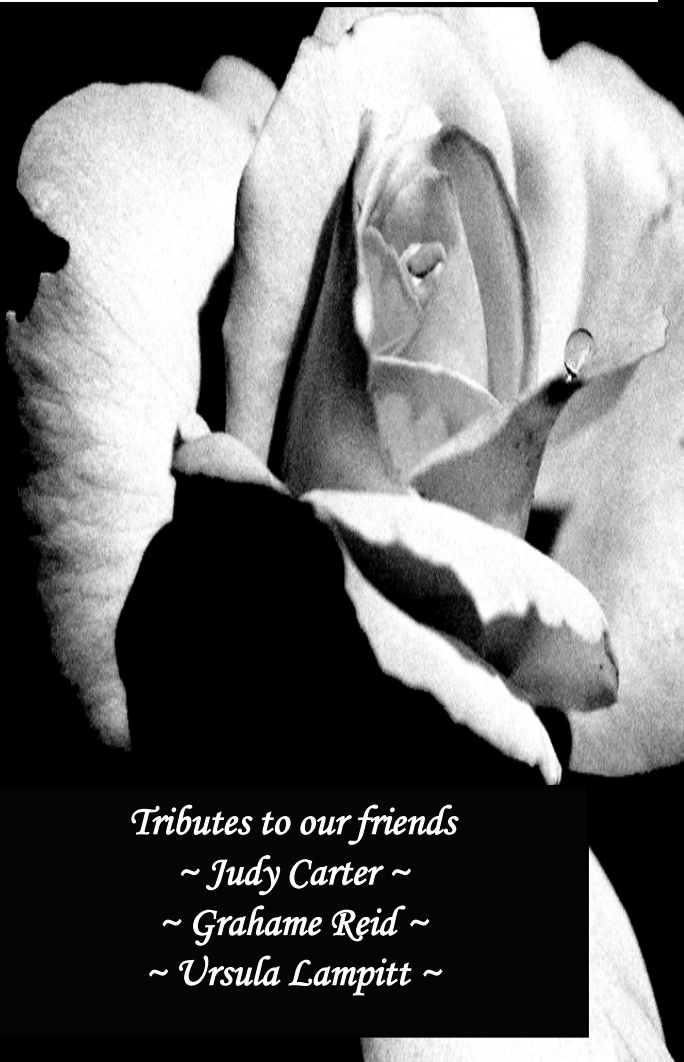
Graeme's life covered many spheres. He served as a navigator with the R.N.Z.A.F. during the war and while seconded to the R.A.F. he spent time in both Canada and Europe.

After the war he remained in Britain to study at the London Library School before returning to N.Z. to study for a B.A. and Accounting Qualifications. This was followed by a move to the family firm, John Reid & Co. Ltd., Wine Merchants, founded by his grandfather in 1869. At this time overseas wines were considered vastly superior to that produced locally, but Graeme had confidence in our wines and supported and promoted them very actively. Reid's was the first wholesaler to handle local wines in N.Z. Graeme was a founder member of the Food & Wine Society and became a director of both Nobilis and Penfolds.

When his family firm merged with L.D. Nathan & Co. Ltd. in 1970 Graeme became a director of that firm and began his involvement with the Auckland Employers Federation, being a member of the council from 1974 and president 1977/78. He was also president of the N.Z. Employers Federation 1978/80. He was awarded the C.B.E. for his services to business in N.Z. in 1980.

Through his involvement with Portugal in the wine industry Graeme was asked to represent that country in N.Z., and served as their honorary consul for many years. In recognition of this contribution he was made, by the Portuguese government, an Officer of the Order of Prince Henry the Navigator in 1984.

Graeme was a person of great integrity and optimism and will be remembered for the way he gave so freely of his time and support to any cause he believed in. Our deepest sympathy goes to Hilary, Catherine, Elisabeth, David and the grandchildren.



Tributes to our friends

~ Judy Carter ~

~ Graeme Reid ~

~ Ursula Lampitt ~



URSULA LAMPITT

My Mum
A tribute from her daughter

Mum was born into a family of one boy and four girls. Her father was Scottish, and the family endured growing up through the hard days of the depression. Mum started work as a machinist at a shirt factory and progressed to become an accomplished tailoress. She was very capable with her hands, not only in sewing, but in embroidery, needlework—and of course, tatting.

In the mid 1940's she met and married my father, who was then in the Air Force. In 1947 she gave birth to a much-longed-for, big, bouncing baby boy, but it was a very difficult birth, and unfortunately Douglas was born damaged during delivery.

When Douglas was five years old, they were told that he would never be able to attend a normal school, and would always be intellectually handicapped. Mum was devastated, and almost gave up hope. At that time she was sewing for a friend who had a shop, and she asked her if Mum would like her friend's minister to come and have a talk with her. She agreed, and he encouraged Mum to ask for help from God. Mum did, and she found that her hopelessness was replaced with courage and strength to face the future.

As Douglas grew, attending Sunnydene Special School at first, and then moving on to Ranfurly, so did Mum and Dad's involvement with the IHC Society, and in more recent times with Ranfurly Care when they took over. She was always ready to give a listening ear to anybody, and to help them when she could, and was always cheerful, and never critical.

She sewed, and made dolls, tatted mats, made and stuffed cushions, and together with the other ladies in the Auxiliary group helped with the fairs and stalls that were so necessary to raise money for the cause that was so dear to her heart. While he was alive, Dad was a tremendous help to Mum and to others—always there to help in his quiet way. When he went home to heaven, Mum's faith and assurance that she would see him again helped her to keep smiling and cheery. She missed his backup very much as now there was just her and Douglas in the house. As Mum grew older she came to depend more and more on my husband, Peter, and myself, and moved closer to us from the house they had lived in for over 50 years.

In 1993 she was awarded a Kiwi Leaders Merit Certificate by the Jeycees, recognising her more than 40 years involvement with the Ladies Auxiliary group at Ranfurly. It had to be arranged as a surprise, because she never sought recognition for anything she did. She continued to help at Ranfurly until earlier this year when her failing health made it impossible.

In April she went home to heaven to be with her Lord Jesus and to meet her much loved Len again. She is greatly missed by us all, including her six grandchildren (who valued her special treats, and found her to be a much-needed confidante) and 2 great-grandchildren.

Douglas is now living in Ranfurly Care Hostel and is settling in well. When he comes home to see us on Sundays to attend church (which he dearly loves) he always tells us "Good hostel! Enjoy hostel!" While he is pleased to see us, and is waiting for us on Sunday morning, he is just as pleased to go back to his new home at Ranfurly. There is such a loving, caring atmosphere there, and we are grateful that Douglas is happy and able to live there, which is what Mum always wanted.

Diann Hargreaves

NEWSLETTER No. 18
DECEMBER 1997

NEWSLETTER

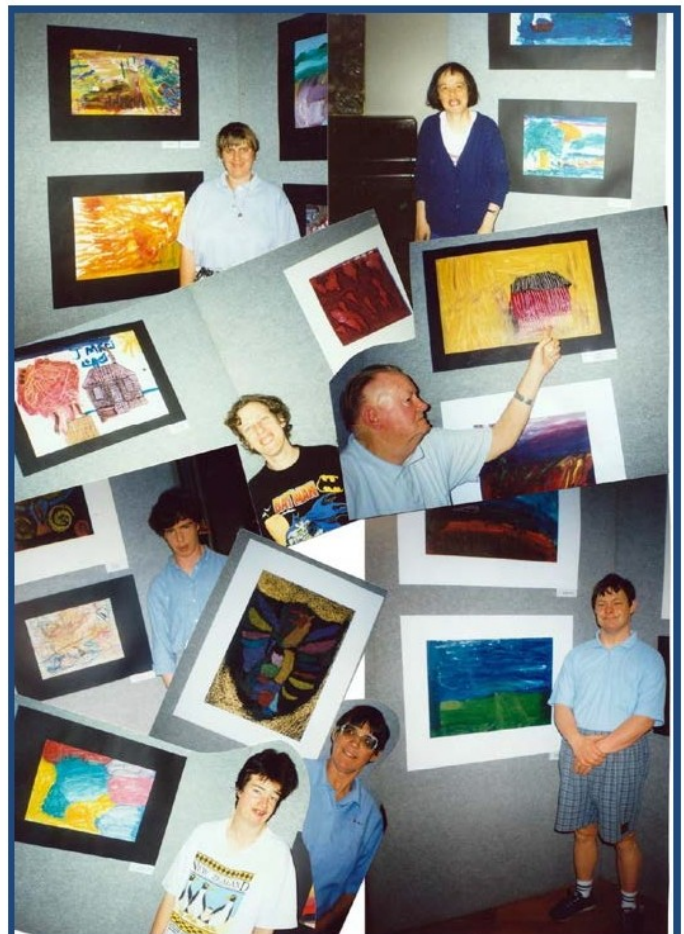
As Christmas is only a few days away, I would like to take this opportunity to enter into the spirit of the season by wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy Prosperous New Year. We are all ready for Santa's visit with his presents donated by the generous Ladies Auxiliary elves. You are more than welcome to share our Activity Centre end of year festivities on 22 December at 1.00pm. The programme includes afternoon tea, a blessing, the student's nativity play, items, awards and to finish the much awaited Santa visit.

The past week has also been one of celebration, beginning with the very successful and well attended first Ranfurly Art Exhibition. The hall was transformed into a gallery of vibrant colour whilst a silent auction created an air of excitement throughout the evening. Congratulations to Jeanette who initiated the concept using all her resourcefulness to make the dream become a reality.

It has been a team effort from the invitation design and printing, the provision of refreshments, to fund raising \$1653 to cover expenses. We must say a big thank you to John Horner and Robyn Barnaby for their support and interest throughout the rewarding 'Whitecliffe' project. While on the subject of art we have been invited by Penny Eames to be part of the booklet to be published by Arts Access Aotearoa.



The other exciting celebration was last Thursday when I was invited to attend the College of Education Graduation presentations, Jeanette and Nazma, two of our staff members – as a result of two years tuition and hard work received a Diploma in Teaching People with Disabilities. Georgia Jensen-Procter one of our students sisters also received a diploma in Education of Students with Hearing Impairment. Our congratulations to all.




Many milestones have been achieved during this, our fifth year of service. We have been able to promote the needs of our people in the community as UNITEC have sent several Bachelor of Nursing undergraduate students as part of their training, to work in the Home and Activity Centre. The six weeks practical part of their course has been invaluable to their students who are very grateful for the opportunity and experience gained from working with the intellectually disabled. The College of Education sent students to spend a period in the Activity Centre as part of their practical course requirements.

The Te Awamutu' Gracelands Trust made us very welcome when a group of us went in July to

visit their complex and see the variety of day services. Their programme cares for people with a mental or intellectual disability. Another interesting visit was to see the Erson Avenue CCS Computer Department and their Day Activity Centre.

Another of our yearly garage sales has raised over \$2,000 and was organised and run by staff in the Activity Centre. All your contributions helped make this a successful day. Thank You!

Special Olympics Rolling Skating



In Rotorua in Rolling Skating I won a Gold Medal. We leave Auckland at 8 o'clock on Saturday morning it was raining. We got to Rotorua at 11.30. We had lunch we went for a walk then it was time to go Rolling Skating. We stay there for until 5.30pm. We went to have dinner at K.F.C After that we went take Jocelyn to church. Had a walk around the lake then the swan was making noise at us. We went back to the Havana Motor Lodge to have a cup of coffee or tea. After we had a walk around the city. Then we had a swim outside heated pool and then inside Hot Mineral Pool. It was very relax on Sunday Rotorua

GRADUATION 1997

The Associate Dean, Staff and Students members
1997

Linda Nelson
to be present at the
Centre for Special Education

Graduation Ceremony

Bruce Mason Centre
1 The Promenade
Takapuna

at 4pm, Thursday 4 December, 1997

Rehearsals will be held
at 10.30am on the 3rd Dec at the Bruce Mason Centre
and on the 4th Dec at the Bruce Mason Centre

RSVP by 2 December, 1997

Centre for Special Education

Graduation Ceremony 1997

4.00pm
Thursday 4 December, 1997
Bruce Mason Theatre
Takapuna


Admit One

Diploma in Education of Students with Hearing Impairment

Christy Aston
David Buchanan
Kathy Herwood
Georgia Johnson-Proctor
Janice Kamoharui
Fiona Mundy
Fiona Hoyle

Diploma in Teaching People with Disabilities

Nancy Adams
Joanna Ashworth
Clive Buchanan
Alison Gault
Kerrie Gray
Wendy Gray
Wendy Gray
Fiona Gorman
Sue Gorman
Ann Gately



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The Auckland Regional authority has now completed the task of issuing compulsory ID cards designed to have tighter control on their Total Mobility Scheme. The criteria of eligibility for the 50% subsidized taxi fares is that the recipient is incapable of using public transport unaided.

The staff enjoyed the opportunity to take most of our students to see 'The Phantom of the Opera' at the Civic theatre. We took advantage of discounted \$20 seating in the balcony that were made available to non profit or volunteer organisations.

The Residential Home staff organised an interesting variety of weekend outings. Included were visits to Weber Bros Circus, the Onehunga Fencible Celebrations, The Greenlane Expo, NZ Sports and Outdoor Exhibition, A Special Olympics Fun Walk, The Home Show, various movies, Whenuapai for Kite Flying and Naval display, Awhitu Regional Park for walks and a picnic, the Papatoetoe Craft Fair, a picnic at Snell's Beach, Western Springs 'Gardenz' the great Garden Show, an Ostrich Farm at Murphy's bush, the Balmoral School Jubilee, the Children's Workshop production of Peter Pan, the Eilerslie Santa Parade, the Rudolph Steiner School advent fair and

numerous visits to Mc Donald's and The Pizza Hut.

Just today we had some tired but very happy people return from a weeks' holiday on Rotaroa Island – the first of this years' holidays. More holidays have been organised for the New Year.

Some residents are staying through the holiday period and we have many short stay visitors. The Activity Centre will re-open a week earlier on 12 January to help working families.

Once again thank you to all those who have supported us by your thoughts, words, deeds or financial assistance. Au revoir and God bless you all,
Linda

Merry Christmas from the President

We have had a good year at Ranfurly, several new initiatives and a gradual refining and development of all our services. Nothing ever stands still, and that is certainly true of our organisation. I greatly admire the enthusiasm and imagination our staff display in thinking of new and better programmes and special individual activities for our people.

Although I can think of many initiatives worthy of mention I particularly want to comment on the Supported Employment sector, which is new this year.

We went into this a little tentatively but it has turned out brilliantly. Congratulations to George Butler for his tireless enthusiasm which has seen a number of people in jobs they are very proud of.

Another great success was our art course at Whitecliffe culminating in an Art Exhibition and evening function that drew favourable comments from all who attended. Well done Jeanette Baalbergen, another example of tireless enthusiasm bore fruit!

The new stream-lined single body Executive has worked well and I thank all the members for their contributions in the various portfolio areas.

The success of Ranfurly must be measured by the lives of those who live there and those who come there daily to join in the programmes. I feel there are several things we all need for a happy life: to feel loved, useful to others, and supported and approved of in what we do. We also need to feel safe but not restricted in our environment. The special people in our staff, ably led by our manager, Linda Nelson, seem to have a talent for providing this atmosphere at Ranfurly. I feel very fortunate to be part of this organisation

Best wishes to you all at this special time of the year

Jan Mitchell President

Celebrating the Creativity of People with Intellectual Disabilities

Some Ranfurly Students with Tutor at Whitecliffe College of Art and Design 1997



Part of Ranfurly Care Society's first art exhibition is the culmination of two of art classes that some our student's attended this year, at Whitecliffe College of Art and Design under the tutorship of John Horner. Proceeds of any sale of art work goes to the artist concerned, with a 10% commission to Ranfurly Care's art fund.

This fund will assist with payment for further tuition from professional artists next year. Also on display are various other art forms that have been, and still are instrumental in assisting people with intellectual disabilities to celebrate and share individual creativity.

SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT NEWS..... This year our Supported Employment programme has really gathered momentum! Although our funding only currently allows for a part time programme, we have had considerable success in placing several students in a variety of paid part-time jobs. Chris is working as a cleaner for McDonald's. Pam is employed at Rub a Dub Service Station as a Hostess where she greets customers and makes cups of tea or coffee for them. Deanne has worked at Gulliver's Laundry – folding linen, while Jenny has a placement in the Warehouse, Newmarket where she carries out restocking and pricing. Gardening is the most

difficult activity to place supported employees. We have some individual contacts for garden maintenance and Mark is employed to do lawn mowing for Carlson School for Cerebral Palsy and the Manor Inn Residential Home. Gerard carries out exterior maintenance in the grounds of the Hollyrest Home and Janet does domestic cleaning at the Catherine Lodge Residential Home. Janice helps with domestic services and cattery maintenance at Cornwall Park Lodge Motel. Ann and Annette make beds and help with residents at the Cornwall Park Hospital.

We would love to hear from anyone who has or might have any potential work opportunities or contacts within the community, whatever the type of work.

JEANETTE'S PROJECT PRESENTATION TO THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Laan, Anne J, Phillipa and Jan were asked to help Jeanette present her individual project 'Cadences of Hope' to her College of Education class on Friday 17 November.

After morning tea they all introduced themselves to the class and Anne said a lovely prayer. Everyone from Ranfurly helped distribute the song sheets, after Phillipa had introduced the song by saying one....two.....three. We all sang "I wish I knew how it would feel to be free." Nazma another Ranfurly Staff member who had also been in the same class, played her harmonica. Jeanette spoke about her project and read an allegorical story that was part of it. At the end of the presentation we were all very pleased to receive a bunch of roses. The College of Education students said how much they have enjoyed the presentation.

As a result of the tragic death of the Princess of Wales, the students at Ranfurly Activity Centre got involved in a few projects. Together they made a comprehensive scrapbook with many pictures of Diana's life in the public eye. Secondly, we arranged for as many students as possible to sign the "Book of Condolences" at the Governor General's house in Epsom. Teddy Martin donated a beautiful floral tribute. George organised the planting of a commemorative tree in the Ranfurly Garden and for a conclusion to these events, we held a short memorial tribute in the Activity Centre.



TEN PIN BOWLING

This year we have had seven people from Ranfurly regularly attend Ten Pin Bowling at Henderson with the Special Olympics. Tu and Paul have been the two staff members taking them each week.

Everyone enjoyed a lot of fun as well as good bowling this year. At the recent Awards Presentations all of the players from Ranfurly received one trophy or another, either as part of a team or as an individual prize.



Caresse Knight won the "Most Improved Female Player of the Year" which was a high honour indeed. The other successful players were Pam Barton, Susie Cooke, Gerard Kiely, Bruce Wensor, Chris Martin and Geoff Watson.

NEWS FROM JULES

For me 1997 has been an exceptionally busy year. I have completed a Secondary School Teaching Diploma at the College of Education. To gain experience for part of this Diploma, I spent two weeks at the Ranfurly Care Society Activity Centre.



The classes there are of a very high standard and are both creative and imaginative. I was particularly impressed with the effort that had been put into the Art Room. The art work that is being produced by intellectually disabled students is exciting and the students are exploring and developing many new skills and techniques.

I had the opportunity to work in the Art Room and help organise an Art Exhibition which took place in November. I became involved in the social side of Ranfurly and gained valuable communication skills.

I would like to take this opportunity to say "thank you" to everybody at Ranfurly for instigating my decision to go into teaching. It is a profession I thoroughly enjoy.

For 1998, I have accepted a fulltime position at Penrose High School, teaching Practical Art to Form 3 through to Form 7 students. I will always stay in touch with Ranfurly, of which I have very fond memories.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Great New Year!

Julie Turner Allen

WORLD VISION SPONSORSHIP written by World Vision

My name is Sufindo and I live with my parents in Lukala, Zimbabwe. I am an eleven year old girl and in the fifth grade at school, where my favourite subject is mathematics.



I am an only child and have the disability of suffering from the after effects of polio. My mother and Father are both in good health, but we are very poor since neither my father nor mother is employed. We live in an area where our community lacks resources to meet even our most basic needs. I baby sit from time to time to help my parents and I especially like to look after younger children and also playing with dolls.

Ranfurly Care has helped us through the World Vision organisation, for the last six months. It is most encouraging to see the organisation already caring for the disabled, having enough time and compassion to care for other less fortunate than even they are.

If you would like to help me and my family over the next six months or a year, please send your contributions no matter how small, care of the World Vision Facilitating Group at Ranfurly Care Society where Anne Johnson instigated the original idea by taking part in the 'Twenty Hour Famine' last March.

My family, community and I would be grateful for your support.

**NEWSLETTER No. 19
AUGUST 1998**

NEWSLETTER

My apologies! This newsletter is a tad late - taking into account the last issue was last Christmas. It has been a very interesting, challenging and busy six months. Now we are working towards the AGM to be held on Sunday 27 September and waiting for the auditors to do their part in completing the end of year financial reports.

The New Year started with an abundance of good news as generous donations enabled us to purchase a new dish washer for the Activity Centre and invest some funds for planned building projects.

SAM's service audit visit in February was very successful, involving interviews with many staff and family members. In the summing up, the auditor said if he was marking us as a headmaster, we had achieved a mark of 9.5 out of 10, since no one is perfect. It was a very encouraging result for all the staff especially with the recommendation that another audit is not required for a further three years.

The area outside the dining room has recently been transformed by creating a small waterfall to cascade into a pool of goldfish with a Punga log backdrop and camellia gardens. An aviary, designed around a myrtle gum tree in the garden, is now the home of quail, singing canaries and white doves, all in all creating a peaceful ambient setting. The trampoline placed at ground level is a further attraction. Hopefully, a newly planted Kowhai tree will attract Tuis into the garden when in flower. The aviary was built by courtesy of our friends the Eden/Epsom Jaycees who sadly had to disband through lack of new members.

The builders finally started the office and home alterations on 10 June. Chaos reigns, especially with the unusually wet weather, many tradesmen's vehicles and no front door availability!

Welcome to our new residents, Laan Chau since her move from the IHC on Friday 12 June and Michael Van Veen, who came to live with us in August.

There has been only one staff change since Heather McSweeney retired to Whitianga after five years service. Gloria Faier, Heather's replacement, is proving to be an asset to the home bringing with her 15 years experience in this field.

Training has been an important part of this year's strategic plan for all of us. In February, Twenty staff attended a very successful, on site, Employers and Manufacturing Association (EMA) course - 'Team Building'. During March we had EMA training on 'Occupational Health and Safety' and in April George was inspired by a 'Pro Em' Course on 'Advance Marketing & Selling Skills' for Supported Employment. All staff attended a comprehensive Red Cross First Aid Refresher Certificate course in June.

Our family day trip to Kawau Island was a great success with 49 students, staff and family members participating. To simplify organising transport to Sandspit Wharf, Special Olympics kindly let us use their van as supplemental transport. The weather, the boat trip, swimming, good company and fun made it a magical day for all to remember.

Ranfurly have recently extended our services by supporting two people, who have an intellectual disability, to live in a flatting situation in the community. We feel confident we can be very effective in his extended field of community service.



If anyone is interested, I have purchased a very useful reference book called the 'Legal Resource Manual', which lays out conditions and regulations for a large variety of rights and entitlements under NZ law. You are most welcome to use it as a reference for any benefits. Whilst on the topic of law, we have arranged with the Law Society to distribute 3,100 copies of information relating to Ranfurly to all legal professionals. Who knows, maybe with this knowledge, some of their clients may consider leaving us a bequest.

That leads us into news about our 'Foundation Trust'. Progress has finally been made with Peter Ellis, senior partner and consultant of Ellis Gould, now having ready a draft copy of the Rules of Trust. We have really appreciated over the years Ellis Gould's continued support and feely given valued legal advice.

Ian Fraser, resident with us for more than six years, sadly died on 27 April.

Ian was a respected and dearly loved member of the Ranfurly family. Twenty-three of his Ranfurly friends attended his funeral service taken by Jenny Brinsdon as celebrant and then returned to Florence's home for fellowship. His two close friends, Chris Martin and Gerard Kiely, were proud to have been two of the pall bearers.



In fact, it has been a sad period for many of our friends. Our sincere condolences to the Jackson family. Firstly for Maureen's death and then shortly after Bill Jackson - her twin brother. To member Thelma Woodward on the loss of her husband, and also to our residential staff member Iris Williams, for the sad loss of her Mum. Sympathy also to the Shieff family (Bill Shieff was an early Committee member) for the loss of their son Richard.

We have been more than happy to host the College of Education students for practical placement towards their Certificate in Human Services. This year we are very fortunate to have a volunteer, Clive Backhouse, who is a dispensing optician, holding a Diploma for Teaching People with Disabilities. Clive who is currently working towards a degree is working as a volunteer for two days a week in the Activity Centre.

On a happier note, congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Duncan, who are celebrating their 60th Wedding Anniversary.

One of our founder members, Bob Johnston, who acts as our 'handy man' every Wednesday, was given a surprise 80th birthday party in the Activity Centre on Sunday 2 August by his son.

Mr. Mystery, the magician, helped us celebrate Bobbie's special 50th birthday party.

In May, the Down Syndrome Association hosted the third Asia Pacific Conference. Arts Access Aotearoa invited Ranfurly to exhibit some of our budding artists' work at their art exhibition. Their work was obviously very successful as the director Penny Eames sent her personal congratulations for the work we achieved and exhibited.

This was confirmed by the fax addressed to the Ranfurly Art Department that read, "Congratulations on the fabulous paintings!" You would have sold them 10 times over as everyone loved them. The framing made all the works look very professional. "Good One!" Then we had the further excitement of Tom Hutchinson, from Radio NZ, visiting to interview our artists because he had been so impressed by the quality of paintings. The interview was transmitted on 1YA and we have a tape of it if anyone is interested.

Arts Access Aotearoa have just released a publication 'Creative Spaces' (Art spaces for people with psychiatric and intellectual disabilities) in which we are acknowledged on our holistic approach to encouraging our people towards living full creative, meaningful lives.

The Trustees of Arts Access Aotearoa also invited us to attend the Wellington August launch of the Arts Access publication of 'Creative Spaces'. Jeanette Baalbergen, our Art Coordinator, went on our behalf and returned with renewed inspiration after also touring the local Wellington art centres, established for people with disabilities.



Weekend outings have included bowling tournaments, visiting a Youth Art Exhibition, where everyone received a gift pack to create their masterpieces, and the Film Festival at Village 8 to see 'Hercules', which was organised by the Newmarket Rotary Club.

Thanks to Nonie Kiely's contacts, nine of our residents and three staff were able to go the Irish show

'River Dance'. Special Olympics hold a disco every two months that is enjoyed by both our residents and the community. We have been experimenting with changes to weekend outings trying to be fair to all residents. Five residents go to tenpin bowling each Saturday and on Sunday some residents go out with their families for the day. We changed the Sunday outings for Saturday outings so that all would be involved in going out. Also there is a Sunday community outing.

Other outings have included trips to Laingholm Beach, the Parnell Rose Gardens and the Water Front, Hayman Park, Pakuranga and Howick, Auckland Domain, North Head, Devonport, Cornwall Park and the North Shore, Titirangi Beach, Maraetai, the Auckland Museum, various walks, Western Springs, the movies, McDonalds, picnic at Pt Chevalier Beach, the Water Gardens at Patamahoe, Monterey Park Vintage Car Museum, the Dog Show at Western Springs, West Lynn Gardens, a ferry to Devonport for lunch and the International Festival at Potter's Park.

Outings have included listening to Jeff Clarkson music at Manurewa, Waiuku for a cafe lunch, Howick historical village for a church service and Queen Victoria celebrations, the movie, 'Fairytale', and trips to McDonalds, to Albany, a Sheep World visit, Warkworth, miniature horses at Kumeu, and all had lunch and a turn on the pottery wheel at Trudy's.

We are grateful to Special Olympics for organising transport to Marcellin College on Saturday afternoons so that residents can participate in their fitness programs. On 9 May, Paul took ten people to attend the Dargaville Special Olympics fun bowling tournament day held in conjunction with their Top Town Day. We also went to a Special Olympics Indoor Bowls Ribbon Day held one Sunday at Avondale.

Our people are always very successful returning with numerous ribbons and other awards.

Some students join in with IHC who use our Hall each Monday morning for a one-hour drama/music class specifically designed for profoundly disabled people in wheelchairs.

Debbie Wall, from Joy Fellowship, comes each Wednesday to hold a fun meeting based on interdenominational teachings. Others from the wider community also attend.



As you can see there is plenty of fun and variety.

We have visited Mt Roskill Grammar to promote our Supported Employment services to a younger age group. We have had very positive response with parents visiting our facility.

The teacher, Lorraine Vickery, is bringing a group from Maclean College each week for work experience. This year, we have planned to visit other colleges in

Our area who have special needs classes to inform them of our services.

This is a good time to get out your diaries and record reminders for this years' garage sale to be held on 5 September and also for the Art Exhibition on 13 November.

Au revoir, I will look forward to seeing you at some occasion in the near future. *Linda*

Hello Everyone!

Time has gone by so quickly this year, it is difficult to realise that it is so long since we last updated all our friends on progress at Ranfurly. I suppose it is a good indication of how much is going on here that time seems to go so fast!

We are all very excited about the lovely new office space that is emerging from the builders' rubble and the impressive new entrance to the house. Linda and Bob have struggled for a long time in very cramped and difficult conditions. They deserve better and they are about to get it!

We have at last been able to separate the house entrance from the office and it is great to see how this improves the living areas and privacy for our residents. Some beautiful potted palms have been purchased with money donated in Ian's memory and these will grace the new entrance way, where we also hope to display artwork from our people. The garden area, with tinkling fountain and aviary of songbirds, is a joy to sit in. I urge you all to come and see what the creative hands of Jenny Brinsdon have achieved. Thank you Jenny.

Another achievement we are very proud of is that we have managed to pay another \$80,000 off our mortgage. Reducing our debt makes us all feel more secure.

Do call in and see what has been happening. As you can see the office was a cupboard!

CAN YOU HELP US? *Last year we asked for help in sponsoring a child with a disability through World Vision. Many of our friends responded and we undertook to sponsor Sufindo, a child suffering after the effects of polio, who lives in Zimbabwe.*

We have sponsored her for over a year now, but in order to continue this worthwhile project we need to ask for your help once again. It costs just \$30 per month, and if we all contribute \$5 or \$10 we can manage this easily. (Ranfurly money cannot be used for this purpose).

The people in the Activity Centre have enjoyed the correspondence with their sponsored child, it is a rewarding experience for them to help someone else! Contributions can be left at the office and you will receive a receipt. Thank you, best wishes to you all,



QUIZ EVENING WAS FUN FOR ALL!

Activity Centre staff member, Paul Kelly-Moore decided in May to hold a fund-raising Trivia Quiz Evening to buy some equipment he felt would be helpful for James Donaldson. The evening was held in the Ranfurly Hall and Paul sold 96 tickets, far exceeding his expectations.

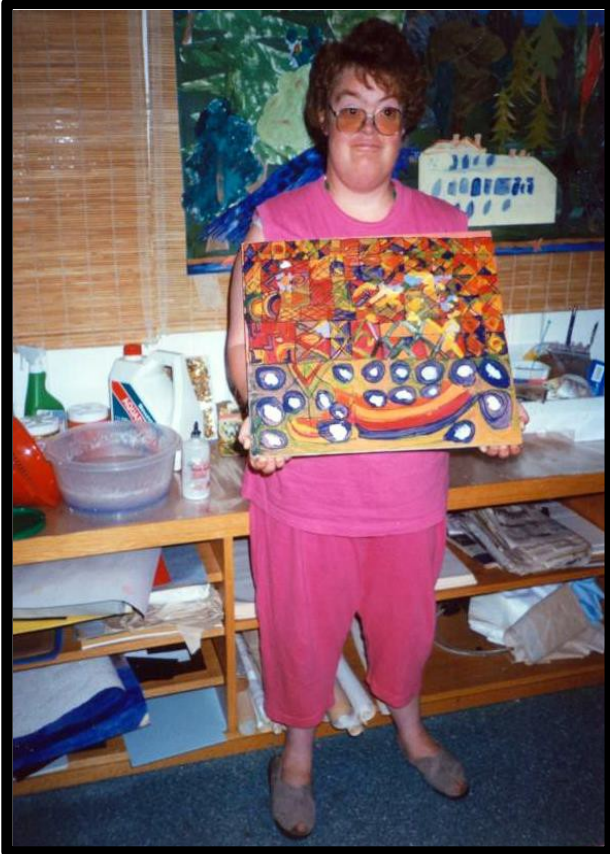
People made up teams with their friends and provided their own refreshments (tea and coffee were supplied). Paul received donations of goods to be used as prizes and a hilarious evening was had by all.

In response to many requests Paul now plans to have another fund-raising evening, this time to raise funds to buy craft supplies for the Activity Centre. It will take the form of a 'Fun and Games Evening' where people will be able to simply be together to relax, chat, laugh and play a couple of group games.

(I hope the games are easier than some of those quiz questions, Paul).

This will be on Friday 2 October.Cost.....\$5 each, Tickets from Paul.
BYO Supper, Soft drinks, tea, coffee provided!

Our works of art exhibited at the recent Down Conference by Lynette Davison in the picture . Elizabeth Grigor, Anne Johnston and Chris Martin also submitted works.



Ranfurly people share talent

CELEBRATING the creativity of intellectually handicapped people the Ranfurly Centre is holding its first art exhibition on November 29 in its Epsom head-quarter's main hall.

Students from the centre spent the last two terms of this year taking art classes at the Whitecliffe College of Art and Design in Grafton, under the tutorage of John Horner. "Art is something that all the students can participate in," says Ranfurly teacher Jeanette Balbergen.

"It is a very good way for everyone to express themselves and they all enjoy taking part in art classes."

The exhibition features 57 works ranging from paintings to stencils and collage.

Ms Balbergen says the



Jan Green (back, left) Pam Barton (right) and Anne Johnston (front) display their art work.

field trips to the Auckland Domain and the Mission Bay waterfront to draw the surrounding landscape.

Proceeds from any art work sold will go to the artist with a 10 per cent commission to Ranfurly Care's art fund to assist in payment for further tuition from professional artists next year.

Arts Access Aotearoa has been extremely supportive of the centre's venture into the world of art and is currently compiling a book on Ranfurly Care's Activity Centre.

The art work will be sold by silent auction on November 28 from 5pm to 7pm, with the exhibition open on November 29 from 10am to 4pm.





NEWSLETTER

Here we are already in December with the festive season nearly upon us. For many of this will be time to relax and catch up with friends and families.

We held our annual resident's families get together last Sunday before things got too hectic in the silly season. I was very touched that at the residents last meeting I was told by the facilitator that they had discussed giving me a Christmas gift of a platter of fruit beautifully presented on an English willow trug and they chose Gerard to present their gift. To me that epitomizes just what we are, a caring family.

This has been an exceptionally busy time with the office refurbishment, and our annual AGM Strategic Plan and finally the very successful second Art Exhibition. The Garage Sale, thanks to the very hard working staff made \$1,287.65 for extras in their centre.

After the office refurbishment was completed we decided to gibbon and paint the main lounge to make it feel more homely. To complete the decor we purchased pastel venetian blinds and a glass top hall table and matching mirror. Next the carpets were cleaned and on the outside non-slip terracotta tiles were laid. When the tar seal area is laid on 11 January we can be proud that we have finally achieved or long term objective, an attractive comfortable functional family home.

Community Funding Agency (CFA) called in for the annual audit re our annual assessment and we have since been informed that "we are granted confirmation of approval status in the category: Level Two Standards for Approval, Vocational Service," with the next assessment not due until 17 November 1999.

The Strategic Planning meeting on Wednesday 11, facilitated by Cheryl Coleman was very successful but was a little disappointing as only ten members were present. Maybe this is a type of compliment with member's apparent apathy signifying their satisfaction?

A special "thank you" to Bruce Fraser's son for his time in activating 25 telephone lines should we need them – a feat Telecom has been unable to achieve in six years we've been here! Thanks are due to the great help we have from the PD workers, courtesy of the Justice Department. Also thanks to Bruce for building a home attached to the aviary for our very handsome dwarf bunny, Robert. He is presently recovering from the vets 'snip' in anticipation of his lady friend who is due any day. Recently, much to everyone's delight the canaries and

quails have had several babies. A prolific Spring! Whilst on the subject of thanks, once again a big "thank you" to our friends May Harvey, Felicia Worley, the Leys Family and Phillipa Halls brother Francis and Miranda. We were very touched by Francis and his bride Miranda's gesture

conveyed on their wedding invitation note to their guests "We are very fortunate to be starting life together with two of just about everything. If you prefer, we would be delighted with a donation to the Ranfurly Care Society instead of a wedding gift". A wonderfully generous thought!

The second Art Exhibition was another resounding success, heralded (excuse the pun) by a coloured picture in a prime position in the front section of the New Zealand Herald. The paintings sold well, much to the delight of the artists. You will be interested to read the enclosed articles about Jack Willets.

Twice a week Jack spent time painting our students portraits in oil - as he sees them. Jeanette used Jack's painting collection as part of the Exhibition theme and the display partition panels were again supplied free courtesy of Peek Signs.

Welcome to Ranfurly's Second Art Exhibition

*We're honoured that you have come here today
Especially to view works of art on display
Laboriously we've worked in the art room all year
Completing each piece with a great deal of cheer
Ordinary works, we are sure these are not
Mainly as.....
Each artist gives ALL that they've got*

*Think as you ponder on each piece of art
Of people who toil, less with head more with heart*

*Ranfurly's people strive hard to achieve
And as they depict things in ways they perceive
Novelty opens exciting new doors
Focus released, imagination explores
Uncharted waters of creative force
Raising more issues for staff to endorse
Like when people with the syndrome that is known as Down
Yielded there Conference to Auckland's huge town
Some five our people exhibited art -*

*"Spectacular" many proclaimed from the start
Eventually an ardent radio man
Came to expound through IYA's band
On the wonderful colours and particular shapes
Never captured before on interview tapes
Destiny deigned more 'art-going' places -*

*Arts Access has published 'Creative Space'
Ranfurly Care is included in this
Thus our students 'talents have not gone amiss*

*Enabling people is the key to our show
Xeranthemum qualities each year as we go
Head every towards the flowering of Self
Important awareness essential to health
Before we go we'd like to say
If you buy any pictures on view today
The main proceeds go towards art next year
Intended for purchase of quality gear
Over all that's above we leave you to regard
Natural ability in art-for bestarred*



Sunset-Sunrise Art Exhibition

An art exhibition at the end of the year gives our students a goal to work towards. It stimulates interest and concentration during group work and is a vital part in assisting individuals to fulfill their potential.

Sunset-Sunrise began to emerge at the end of April when Tracey Williams introduced Jeanette and some of our students to Cathy Preston at Warm Fuzzies Art Gallery in Newmarket. Eventually we made a deal with her to hire the gallery for a week at a generously reasonable price. Funding from Creative Communities and Toi Ora Live Art helped to pay for the gallery.

In May, Whitecliffe College, supported by Arts Access Aotearoa, organized a seminar on "Art for Extraordinary Communities". This was attended by Jan, Linda and Jeanette. The seminar, whose theme was partnerships, inspired many ideas for Sunset-Sunrise. Through Ken Cooke, who is a tutor at Whitecliffe and Toi Ora Live Art, we were allocated two students from Whitecliffe. They assisted with stretching the canvasses on which each of our students exhibited some of their work, (forty-five in all). Each canvass had a verse-let for its title. Andrew Wheeler, a Social Work student from Auckland Institute of Technology, assembled the frames for the canvasses, which was no mean feat. Our students enjoyed the opportunity of painting on good quality canvasses.

For three weeks before the exhibition Iain Crichton, a potter, volunteered to assist with mounting our one hundred and twenty two pictures for the exhibition. One Saturday, Iain and Jeanette went round waste card bins extracting stiff card to mount the pictures. Willem's van was used to transport this unwieldy mass to Ranfurly. We then found a firm for cutting the card to size thus making the remaining work a little easier. Iain, Willem and Jeanette spent weekends and evenings mounting, backing and attaching strings for hanging the art-work.

On the 12th November all was ready for the exhibition, except for a catalogue which was completed as people began to arrive. Unfortunately the photocopy place had shut by then so the catalogue was not generally available until the next day.

Father Bernard Kiely blessed the exhibition and Christine Fletcher opened it. Penny Eames from Arts Access also spoke. Penny told us that art for people with limited access to the arts is becoming extremely popular and that there are forty five creative spaces throughout NZ, of which Ranfurly Care is one. All attending were impressed with Ranfurly students' efforts and complimented us for including Toi Ora Live Art (for people living with mental illness), the Connolly unit (Auckland Hospital's acute mental health unit), the Elizabeth Knox Retirement Village and the Whitecliffe College of Art and Design. Jan Green made a short speech and presented Christine Fletcher with flowers. Anne Johnston also made a speech in presenting Penny Eames with flowers and Pam Barton also presented Jessie and Catherine Chappell, who had performed a soul-stirring dance, with flowers. Laan Chau read a poem of hope for new projects for art in the millennium. Our students performed these duties very well and were a credit to Ranfurly. About one hundred and twenty people attended the opening. Feedback from people during the week was very favourable.

On the face of it, these artists present some novel ideas



Hiding behind portraits of themselves are (from left) artists, Laan Chau, Janice McKenzie, Anne Johnston, Lynn Davidson, Bobbie Carter and Philippa Hall. The intellectually disabled art students from the Ranfurly Care Society in Epsom,

Auckland, know what it is like to be on both sides of the easel. Their auction on Friday next week, Celebration of Creativity, includes artwork of their own and portraits of them by Jack Willetts.

Report on Visit to Wellington for Book Launch of 'Creative Spaces', Arts Access Aotearoa from 6/8/98-7/8/98

My husband and I arrived at Pablo's Art Gallery for the Book Launch of 'Creative Spaces', by Ginny Haynes of Arts Access Aotearoa, (in Which Ranfurly Care is featured together with photos of art-work by Lyn Davidson, and Anne Johnston), was held at 5-30pm on 6 August 1998. Pablo's Gallery is situated in the centre of Downtown Wellington and caters for consumers of mental health. There -were a number of people already there when we arrived. The atmosphere was buzzing with interest. Ginny Haynes, Projects co-ordinator of Arts Access, and Penny Eames, Director of Arts Access Aotearoa, - welcomed us and gave us a book to peruse. The evening was sponsored by Montana wines. V.tlo provided light refreshments and wine during the evening.

Attending, -were Staff from Arts Access, people involved in various Creative Spaces, consumers' of health care, and a number of people employed in the Ministry of Health. Mell Smith, Chair Arts Access Aotearoa, introduced The Deputy Minister of Mental Health, Doctor Nick Judson, v.tlo launched the book. The manager of Pablo's also spoke. All agreed that 'Creative Spaces' is an important milestone in the arts, especially in regard to celebrating creativity of people who may otherwise not have opportunities, or have limited opportunities to participate in the arts. (Health and social services professionals are excited by the progress that individuals make as a result of enhanced self-expression, and quickly become convinced that Creative Spaces should become part of the planning and implementation of an holistic concept of health. - Excerpt from, 'Creative Spaces', by Ginny Haynes of Arts Access Aotearoa).

During the evening we were introduced to people involved in other Creative Spaces in Wellington and visits to these places were arranged for Friday.

On Friday morning -we reported to Arts Access's office at 27 Dixon Street, and met the staff. When Genie from 'Lincoln Green Artisan Village', at Sunnyside hospital arrived, we started our tour of three Creative Spaces in Downtown Wellington, accompanied by Ginny Haynes.

- The first Creative Space that we visited was Pablo's. We were shown the studio above the gallery. The studio is a large rambling area divided into various spaces in which the artists work. About forty people are catered for here and they have their own or shared space. There were many interesting varied art-forms in various stages of completion. Artists display their work, exhibit, assist in the running of, and successfully sell their work from the gallery beneath the 'work studio.

- Next we visited Vincent's Art Workshop situated in Downtown Wellington which has an open-door policy, i.e. members of the public may use the facility. Friday was ladies day only. The studio space is large and art includes painting, pottery ceramics, and printmaking, There is also a dark-room for photography and much more. Then the Arts Co-ordinator gave us a fund of information.

- After lunch we visited IHC Jessie Street that is also situated in downtown Wellington. The studio consists of a garage front that is used as a gallery with a large work area at the back. When we visited they had an exhibition of photography in the garage part, attractively displayed on corrugated iron obtained from a nearby building site, (corrugated iron from demolition and off-cuts from the new building). Jessie Street encourages personal growth through visual arts, creative dance and drama therapy, the on-site gallery exhibits and sells artists' works.

Arts Access Aotearoa has been instrumental in encouraging and providing useful information to Ranfurly Care in regard to the development of our art. It provided an opportunity at the Down's syndrome Conference for a nation-wide art exhibition of work completed by people with Down Syndrome. By having the opportunity of attending the Book Launch of 'Creative Spaces', Arts Access provided a valuable nationwide venue for networking. The content of the book provides valuable information that can improve the lives of many people with disabilities. We salute Penny Eames, Ginny Haynes and Arts Access Aotearoa staff for a wonderful book and their dedication to people with disabilities.

In conclusion I wish to thank Ranfurly Care for providing the opportunity to visit Wellington and its Creative Spaces.

CELEBRATING THE CREATIVITY OF PEOPLE WITH
INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES.

About Jack Willetts

Born 1922 in Wanganui, Jack started painting in 1945 in a detention centre for Conscientious objectors, discovering a love for portrait painting which he was able to pursue in 1970 when his six children had all become independent. Night classes for a few years, then some tuition in Florence in 1979.

In the 80's he painted friends and family, and anyone else he could persuade to sit. 1998 saw him with a permit to copy masters in London's National Gallery, and painting also in Norway and Belgium. Then came commissions in Philadelphia, a short course in New York, and further painting in Salt Lake City.

In 1990 came the first large commission to paint eighteen of the Maniapoto decorated elders, followed by one to paint the founders of Te Wananga O Aotearoa in Te Awamutu.

Further commissions came in the 1990's, and many more of friends and family were painted.

This year at an eightieth birthday party of an old detention mate he was invited to paint at Ranfurly Care and this exhibition of 'Faces of Ranfurly' happened, inspired by Jeanette Baalbergen's book of poems, Elders of Innocence, dedicated to the residents, parents, relatives and friends of intellectually challenged people everywhere. Perforce these paintings, mainly from life, had to be painted fast, within an hour, snatching glimpses of rather mobile sitters.

I was encouraged by the enthusiasm of these people.

JACK WILLETTS

Jack Willetts is special to Ranfurly Care;

A man with great talent he chooses to share,

Capturing our students on canvas in oils,

Kudos of which, will enliven our walls.

We'll always remember our gentle man Jack

Intrepidly battling to stay on track,

Layering paint quickly to catch certain traits.

Light flicking of brush that he often displays,

Extending those strokes through to thin air

That seem to state he's satisfied there.

Thus here we'll take leave to wish Jack well,

Sealing this verse with more love than can tell.



CANVAS CHARACTERS: Jack Willetts at his Milford studio.

HERALD PICTURE / NEVILLE MARRINER

First came Goldie, and then Willetts

THE famous Charles Goldie paid old-time Maori to let him paint their portraits. The less famous Jack Willetts portrays modern Maori, but they pay him.

Goldie travelled down-country looking for people to paint. Jack Willetts does likewise, and says, "My portrait work doesn't happen until I go into the field and show what I can do."

Goldie's connection with photography was controversial and misunderstood; Jack Willetts will gladly paint from a photograph if necessary.

Goldie's pictures will be of increasing interest in the next century, Jack Willetts anticipates something similar.

Goldie (1870-1947) is a household name, and the biggest collection of his work assembled is now on show at the Auckland City Art Gallery. But who is Jack Willetts?

He is an elderly, unassuming Auckland portrait painter who does not court comparisons, but likes to paint Maori subjects who have "a tremendous response to portraiture" tying in with their family and historical values. So it is that scores of Willetts' portraits in oils now hang in meeting houses, trust board rooms, schools and private homes in the upper North Island. Jack Willetts at 75, whose features suggest Charles Laughton's better-looking brother, has a hesitancy that belies his unusual and rebellious past. At last he is in touch with the talent which should have been foremost in his life, but which a topsy-turvy destiny thrust into the background.

The Second World War sealed that destiny. He refused to be part of it. So at 19 this student-teacher son of a Wanganui policeman entered five years' detention as a Christian pacifist.

At war's end he joined the Riverside community farm near Motueka where several like-minded families saw themselves as the nucleus of an ideal society of the future, in which people would share rather than compete. It was here that he and his late wife, Nancy, had the first of their six children.

Farming was satisfying but hard, and it left little room for painting. It started him on the occupation that would fill his working life — saw doctoring. He dealt with 42ft (about 13m) double-edged band saws, horizontal saws, trimming and edging saws. The work was hazardous to fingers but good for hand-eye coordination.



ABOUT TOWN
Jack Leigh

It was from this world of screaming saws and spurting sawdust that, at 50, he began increasingly to seek the calm of the artist's studio, where flesh tones were in less peril. Then, on retirement at 60, he gave painting his full attention.

Aged 66, he became a roving portraitist and set out on a shoestring study tour. In Florence, Italy, he met Annigoni who painted the Queen, and was sent to see the artist's 90-year-old former tutor. He shared another painter's studio for three months, toured the European galleries, then in London copied work of the great masters by permission at the National Gallery. A commission in Philadelphia followed and he painted for his keep on a two-month tour of Canada.

Back in New Zealand he found Maori appreciation of portraiture "way beyond the usual Pakeha response ... I haven't gone into it for wealth. People mostly pay only what they can afford anyway."

"These images will be seen by succeeding generations and can only become more interesting as time goes by..."

He has done 18 portraits of tribal elders in one batch and 16 in another. Commissions lead on from each other. A couple of two-hour sittings are about average and Willetts works deftly to complete the portrait, priding himself on the eyes, skin toning and his ability to catch the subject's character.

He has painted a likeness of a departed grandfather in which the only verified detail was his moko taken from an old land deed. A chauvinistic husband once chopped up an oil painting of his wife because it was done without his permission. And one young portrait subject got such a boost to his dignity that he made a whole new go of life.

"Maori people do appreciate portraiture," says Jack Willetts. "I think we can thank Goldie and Lindauer for that."

When Bob Johnson celebrated his eightieth birthday in style at Ranfurly that was where we first had the pleasure of meeting Jack Willetts, if only he had known what he was letting himself in for!

Left - Faces of Ranfurly that inspired Jack Willetts to paint the portraits on the right

The making of the mural

Each student was assisted to draw a face on a piece of fabric and then use fabric dye to colour it in. A staff member sewed the material onto canvas with hangers attached.



Faces of Ranfurly, a hand-crafted portrait mural hangs in the activities centre at Ranfurly Care Society, Auckland.

Portraits of Ranfurly people by Jack Willetts



Recently Sharon, from Amnesty International visited the centre and gave a talk on their work. She told us how writing letters to heads of government could help in many ways to ease the plight of prisoners of conscience. She was very excited that Laan had received a response on behalf of the Amnesty Group from the Attorney General of Peru, Miguel Alijoven Swayne. Sharon has not heard of anyone in New Zealand receiving such a letter and may use it in one of Amnesty's future Newsletters. On Amnesty's recent 'Candle Day' Jeanette and six of her group collected a total of \$204.

I have been attending the 'Auckland Community Based Disability Service Providers Network' meetings that culminated in a forum on Disability Strategies and Planning on 12 November. The speaker the Rt. Hon. Bill English, Minister of Health and Disability, presented a positive case for Special Ed. 2000 and answered questions on CFA merger with CYPF.

Jan and I attended a meeting in November for key providers of Disability Support Services, giving us the opportunity to meet the new Health Funding, Senior Locality Service Manager, Jeff Richardson and his team. This year's Health Funding Annual Report for the contracting period July 1997 to June 1998 has been forwarded, our present contract expires June 1999.

We have celebrated four milestone birthday parties recently. Laan was 60, Jan and Bruce were 50 and Natasha 40. We are presently planning holidays for the residents. Rotoroa will be a 'yes' for March 99 and holidays at Orewa are being planned to make sure all residents have a quality holiday.

This year all staff attended an intensive Red Cross Practical First Aid revision course and two other staff training sessions. Dr. Tim Akroyd facilitated staff training on 'Thoughts from the Down Syndrome Conference' and Pam Heath, dental technician at APH lectured on Dental Hygiene.

I have attended an EMA's ACC Seminar. If the new National party is successful in getting the new accident insurance bill through the house we have a lot to sort out. Every employers legal obligation is to purchase cover, as ACC will remain only for non-working injuries etc. There will no longer be an ACC operating for work related accidents. Presently the system is paid in arrears. As the new system will be fully funded the first year our question is will two premiums also be payable in the same year? The IRD will continue to bill Employers for the next fifteen years to cover the residual fully funded aspects of the present scheme.



Our staff members Jenny and Brett's wedding was a big occasion for everyone. All the residents and many students and their families went to the church service and then came back to share the cutting of the cake. We have an excellent video to remember the event by.

Some weekend outings have included trips to Karatahi Beach, the Family Story Fest at Henderson, to watch Kite flying at Waitakere, Pacific Market Days and a visit to Shakespeare Bay and Army Bay, the Warkworth Festival, Special Birthday celebrations, a clown for entertainment, Beachlands, Piha, Mangere Airport, the Onehunga Festival, Brett and Jenny's wedding, Glenbrook, Devonport, the Laura Ferguson Fair, two Magicians Shows and three community fairs.

Thanks to Paul Kelly Moore who organised a hilarious fun and games evening raising \$320 for purchasing musical instruments in the Activity Centre. You will enjoy his article recalling his quick trip to Mission Bay!



We all send an abundance of get well wishes to Chris Seabrook who attends our Activity Centre. Chris is in hospital in Auckland recovering from an illness. Each week a group of six students as part of their programme take small bouquets of flowers from our garden when they visit patients at the Knox Hospital and rest home - this week they visited Chris.

It is now countdown to the closing function with items, afternoon tea and Santa's visit. Once again we send our grateful thanks to the Ladies Auxiliary for their generous donation to the Christmas Elves to buy a small gift for everyone. Sadly this year Leile Boakes is resigning. She deserves a round of applause for her many years of dedication to the group and her input of sewing and knitting. Thank you Leile, we will miss you, a truly special lady. In return for a life saving operation several years ago, Leile wanted to show her appreciation by contributing her time to the community. It is my privilege to meet this calibre of people through Ranfurly.

The Activity Centre will re open on Tuesday 19 January. The home will be busy as usual. We are looking forward to taking two groups to the fabulous 'Les Miserables' performance early in the New Year. If there is enough interest we will go again in February.

A big thank you to all my wonderful staff, without whom none of this could be possible. I will also take this chance to wish you and your families a safe and happy Christmas and look forward to seeing you in 1999. Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous 1999. God Bless you all..... Linda

LOST IN SPACE

I've been asked to tell you a little about a certain Saturday in October, when I took half a dozen Ranfurly people to Mission Bay for a cinema trip. After confirming the films start to be 12.10 my plans were as follows: leave Ranfurly at 10.30 and go straight to Mission Bay, enjoy a good walk along the beach, munch at lunch at a fast food outlet and then go and enjoy the 12.10 showing of Dr Doolittle. I thought it would make a nice change to drive to Mission Bay from St. Heliers and so set off in the general direction of Remuera to satisfy my intentions.

We sang songs throughout the journey, with particular emphasis being given to 'Old MacDonald Had a Farm' as it seemed a very suitable choice considering the film we were off to see. We successfully negotiated through Remer's, the Orakei Basin and even into Kohimarama Road, leaving us with one final left hand turn (which would have had us into St Heliers Bay Road) to complete our 15 minute journey – oh dear, oh dear! It was then I made my one big mistake (I say one, because I am not counting 1: not planning the exact journey 2: not taking my Auckland Street Directory or 3: My relying on the knowledge and navigational skills of the six Ranfurly passengers to compensate for any locational errors that I may produce on route!) As the singing continued – with more verses than I had ever known before – we passed by the Botany Downs Shopping Centre and I was presented with a road sign offering me the choice of either East Tamaki or Howick. It was at this point that I realised our whereabouts to be something of a mystery and that the pre film walk would now have to be a post film walk. My passengers' were very accepting of this short journey going past the 40 minute mark and even expressed shouts of delight when we entered Pakuranga from the south, having previously cheered on our first visit when we had entered from the east! I hoped for a sight of One Tree Hill or maybe the Sky Tower but neither were on offer, so it meant another chorus of "here a quack, there a quack", while I now started to prepare my troop to take lunch *after* seeing the movie.

There was a certain 'déjà vu' kind of experience when passing by the Panmure Basin for the third time and I began to wonder if there was a mid afternoon showing of Dr. Doolittle. Quite accidentally we stumbled across the motorway when I caught a glimpse of Rainbows End, how very apt you may say. My relief was not limited to being back on familiar territory, nor was it because we still had sufficient minutes available to make our 12.10 deadline! It was very much due to the fact that Old MacDonald was at last coming to an end!

We had sung our way through enough verses for him to extend his farm to include a wild safari and zoological gardens theme park! We arrived at Mission Bay some 90 minutes after leaving Ranfurly and having completed an incredibly 57 kilometers! It was of no surprise that we all needed to visit the respective little boys or girls rooms!

To complete our 'Tiki tour' to the movies we found ourselves presented with a different programme to that we had originally expected. The result of which meant that Dr. Doolittle would not be on for another two hours! We had a quick team meeting in the cinemas cafe and made a unanimous executive decision to see the 12.10 showing of Walt Disney's animation movie called Mullan. As it turned out we all enjoyed the film, we ate a substantial amount at Burger King, walked up and down the beach along the Bay, before taking only 15 minutes and a little under 9 minutes to get home!

Now the big question is who is the staff member who made such a marathon out of a sprint? All answers will be received in the strictest confidence, of course, and we will be only too pleased to share their name with you!



MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS!

Another year drawing to a close and time to look back on the events of 1998. It has been a very busy year (again!) and much has been accomplished.

On the building and refurbishment front, the new office is making life easier for Linda and Bob and at last we have a place for private interviews and the Executive meetings. The new entrance to the house is most impressive as well as providing more privacy for the home. The driveway is to be re-sealed over the holidays which will make a dramatic improvement to our property.

The next project for the Executive is the refurbishment of the top floor of the old house. The plan for this area is to establish two flats for independent people who require support to a lesser degree than those who live in Ranfurly House. Thanks to a very generous bequest from Graeme Reid we are confident that this will become a reality in 1999. Graeme's help and support was of incalculable value when we were a fledgling organisation and it is wonderful that he is still helping us.

I want to thank all my fellow Executive members for their hard work and support during the year. They are a great team and I have thoroughly enjoyed the good humour and stimulating exchange of ideas at our meetings. All busy people, they bring a wide range of skills to work for Ranfurly.

The unique "Spirit of Ranfurly", which is apparent to everyone who visits us, is safe in the hands of Linda and her team of dedicated staff. I cannot praise them too highly for the way they keep the spirit alive.

Best wishes to everyone for Christmas and the New Year.

Jan Mitchell, President

Handwritten initials





Mostyn (Moss) Duncan

We were very saddened by the recent death of Charles Mostyn (Moss) Duncan on August 23 1998. Moss lived a very interesting fulfilling life. In his professional career Moss was a Civil Engineer for local Borough Councils and then he joined the Air force where he was stationed overseas unfortunately having to leave their baby.



We were very saddened by the recent death of Charles Mostyn (Moss) Duncan on August 23, 1998. Moss lived a very interesting fulfilling life. In his professional career Moss was a civil engineer for local Borough Councils and then he joined the Airforce where he was stationed overseas unfortunately having to leave their baby. On his return, he bought his own truck to work for his beloved wife Gwynn's father's road contracting company, Wilson Rothery. As a young man he was a keen sportsman, enjoying swimming and cycling road racing in which he achieved several awards. He enjoyed his leisure activities and always had a cabin cruiser to go fishing and a caravan or holiday home to enjoy the sea. Another great love was motor cars and the more powerful and sporty the better! Moss owned 36 different cars in his lifetime. Travelling was a major part of their life together and they enjoyed 27 varied and delightful overseas trips. Last year Gwynn and Moss celebrated their Diamond wedding anniversary.

Moss was a person of great integrity and had a wicked sense of fun. Moss will be sadly missed by all his friends at Ranfurly Care. Our deepest sympathy goes to Gwynn and Ian in the loss of their husband, friend and father.

On his return, he bought his own truck to work for his beloved wife Gwynn's fathers' road contracting company – Wilson Rothery. As a young man he was a keen sportsman, enjoying swimming and cycling road racing in which he achieved several awards.

He enjoyed his leisure activities and always had a cabin cruiser to go fishing and a caravan or holiday home to enjoy the sea. Another great love was motor cars and the more powerful and sporty the better! Moss owned thirty six cars in

his lifetime! Travelling was a major part of their life together and they enjoyed 27 varied and delightful overseas trips. Last year Gwynn and Moss celebrated their Diamond wedding anniversary.

Moss was a person of great integrity and had a wicked sense of fun. Moss will be sadly missed by all his friend sat Ranfurly Care.

Our deepest sympathy goes to Gwynn and Ian in the loss of their husband friend and father.

Pauline Brookes

We would also like to celebrate the life of Pauline Brookes who passed away on 21 October 1998. We were very sad to learn of Pauline's death, after a bravely fought illness.

I first met Pauline and her other Hilda Ramsey, when as neighbours they introduced me to IHV preschool services at Frances Elliot Centre when my daughter Lou was only three years old.

Many years later Hilda left some money in her will for Pauline to give to an organisation that would use it wisely. When Pauline heard about the success of Ranfurly in purchasing a facility previously owned by IHC, she then made a decision to entrust Hilda's legacy to our family member society. As you can appreciate we were very grateful for Pauline's confidence and decision.

WE REMEMBER TWO GOOD FRIENDS

We would also like to celebrate the life of Pauline Brookes who passed away on 21st October 1998. We were very sad to learn of Pauline's death, after a bravely fought illness. I first met Pauline and her mother, Hilda Ramsey, when as neighbours they introduced me to IHC pre-school services at the Francis Elliott Centre, when my daughter Lou was only three years old. Many years later Hilda left some money in her will for Pauline to give to an organisation that would use it wisely. When Pauline heard about Ranfurly's success in purchasing a facility previously owned by IHC., she then made the decision to entrust Hilda's legacy to our family member society. As you can appreciate we were very grateful for Pauline's confidence and decision. The gift paid for our first lounge and dining room furniture when our services began in 1992.

Personally I can only reflect on my small association with Pauline who was a very caring and loving friend. Our deepest sympathy goes to her family and many friends.



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Personally I can only reflect on my small association with Pauline who was a very caring and loving friend.

Our deepest sympathy goes to her family and her many friends.

NEWSLETTER

52-56 Ranfurly Road
Epsom, Auckland

Phone or fax 630-010

They say time flies when you are having fun! Therefore we must have been having lots of fun seeing our last news-letter was posted 14 December 1998! This last decade has been one of such rapid, constant change with the goal posts moving so swiftly and silently, one can hardly draw breathe before the next change. It makes one wonder what new challenges and technological surprises are on the horizon in the next decade, the first in the new millennium.

These are also exciting times for Ranfurly that will be expanded on by our President in her report. In brief, we have purchased a new resource, the previously IHC owned property at 45 Cornwall Park Avenue. The icing on the cake was a generous, much appreciated grant from the ASB Trust, to refurbish the site. Also we were quite chuffed that Ron Trelease, the present IHC manager, sent, and I quote; to "Linda and the Great Team" a lovely bouquet of flowers together with his best wishes for our future with CPA and his surety that in our hands it would be a great success. Let's face it, there is nothing like a challenge to bring out the innovative best in all of us. This one has certainly required a lot of lateral thinking. Whilst on the subject of bouquets, we recently sent a big thank you to Sue Stiff, our friendly CFA outreach worker for 7 years. Since the recent Government changes and departmental amalgamations, WINZ are now purchasing our Activity Centre Service.

In March, Ranfurly made an appearance on Triangle TV as part of the Auckland Volunteer Centre's awareness week of promotion and recruiting. If interested, a copy of the video is available showing a brief interview with Clive and Linda and then a look at the activities of students at CMA, a volunteer organised community weekly meeting.

Our supporter and friend Dr Florence Fraser, who since our inception did so much to help Ranfurly, recently retired to Tauranga to enjoy her new home and the opportunity to create yet another garden. This is a well overdue exciting new start for Florence who has always done so much for everyone else. We will miss her and her invaluable help over the year with committee work and all those little extras. Such as home made Christmas decorations, jams and fruit mince for the trading tables, a yearly iced Christmas cake for the residents and several extras for raffles. Florence made curtains,

contributed to the grounds with donations of shrubs and the glasshouse, and became involved in many other Ranfurly activities and was my prompter for extra tasks to be completed, especially around AGM times.



NEWS FROM THE RESIDENTIAL HOME

We have had family visitors staying during the year, Mrs Rimmer from Tauranga and Diana and Ben Hepworth visiting from the Pigeon Islands, stayed a few days with Natasha. Later in the year Natasha went home to Pigeon Island for a visit accompanied by Ailsa, her staff member escort. We made a video for Tasha to take to the Pigeon Islands as she went home to meet up with her family and to meet Lucy Irvine, an author who is presently living on the island writing a book from Tasha's late father Toms 60-year travel journals.

It was 'quite a sight' here in the middle of winter when we were home to thirty monarch butterfly chrysalises that were born, placed in the sun and then all happily left home. They were confused by the long spell of warm weather but made a colourful and interesting congregation all clustered around our shrubs and eaves, etc. When some were brought inside they hung from the sideboard until they could emerge, to dry their wings to flutter away.



We are again eternally grateful to Pauline Brookes whose estate left us funds designated specifically for the upkeep and improvement of the residential lounge.



In regards to staff, we received a letter from Sue Owens who had worked in the home for nearly six years to say she has

elected to resign due to health problems. The residents have missed her and Anne Lang, the outing staff member plans to move to Australia.

Thanks to our wonderful innovative staff all residents have had their annual holidays at either Rotorua from 2-9 March or at the Orewa Gift House from 16-19 March and also from 29 March to 1 April. These trips have all been videoed, diaries written and a photo album completed. Many of our friends and family shared a very successful annual family's day on 30 March while some of the residents were on holiday at the beachfront GIFT holiday home location at Orewa.



We continue to hold our two monthly parent meetings and residents meetings. Shirley Wensor, Bruce's sister-in-law has kindly offered to continue facilitating the residents meetings, previously chaired by Florence.

One of this years highlights for staff and residents was going in several small groups to 'see Les Miserables, again at the Civic Theatre, which they all seemed to enjoy thoroughly. I can recall everyone jumping out of their skins at the barricade scene when the cannons were firing. Another party that went off with a bang was organised by Julie Cooke. The hall was the venue to give her sister Susie a memorable family and friend's party to celebrate her 50th birthday in style.

For general interest, I have summarised some of the well-organised weekend outings that are all recorded by the staff in a diary. Thank you Chaunia for your very graphic computer designed memories that we often enclose in the newsletter. As well, some residents attend the weekly 10-pin bowling held at Henderson Waitakere Super Strike Bowling Complex and the odd tournament

held out of town.

Each Monday the wonderful Special Olympic volunteers run an indoor bowls evening at Ranfurly Hall. This year Special Olympics have booked the hall a year in advance for the discos, which are fun evenings enjoyed by the community as well as our own residents and students.

ACTIVITY CENTRE NEWS



On 16 December the Centre held their yearly picnic in One Tree Hill Park. It was a day of true community integration and shared fun as they met up with Cornwall Park Intermediate pupils. Together they shared an enjoyable afternoon playing soccer.

The Christmas break, end of year 'Mice' play and Santa's visit was another success all recorded on video for posterity.

This year we plan to hold the students highlight of the year achievement. We plan an early

evening with a supper preceded by entertainment and a play by the drama group, produced and directed by Paul Kelly-Moore. We decided on the evening time as in late December at midday the hall gets uncomfortably hot, especially for Santa and the entertainers.

On Monday 18th January, our first day back in 1999, we had a successful eight-hour combined Activity Staff Development / Strategic Planning and Team Building Training day, facilitated by Cheryl Coleman. Since then we have held other training courses including, 'Understanding Drugs' by Dr Tim Akroyd; an 'Epilepsy Seminar' and a lucky few were able to enjoy listening to Michael Kendricks' lecture at the College of Education 'The Nature of Safeguards for Vulnerable People'.



There are many new timetable activities; the Laura Ferguson heated pool is proving to be an excellent swimming venue for the students. This year we have been taking students to assess the value of 'horse gentler therapy' for morning sessions held on a farm at Riverhead. We will continue when the weather improves as we are very pleased with the interaction from students especially the non-verbal participants. Jenny and Brett have created a sensory room including a large ball pool - great for the student's co-ordination. We were all very impressed with the excellent IHC studio fibre optic equipment etc. We had hoped to expand our equipment so we were disappointed to have missed out on getting support from the Hilary Commission grant application. Never mind, onwards and upwards. The staff are very creative and always find alternative new ideas to compensate.

Joy continues to find new ideas for her crafts. She achieved excellent results with the two pupils she supervises who are enrolled in the mainstream correspondence school programme.

At the beginning of the year the course is decided and work is set, dependant on the capabilities and interest of the students. Both are studying English which includes reading and comprehension. They receive regular progress reports and one of the girls has achieved reaching third form level English. Clive is taking weekly classes teaching students to cook their evening meal and also taking students out to teach them how to use public transport or just to visit cafes or coffee shops for a latte. Brett has moved the computers to a more tenable utilisation for staff to operate two groups at once. Three Activity Centre computers have been upgraded to Windows 95, which in some cases involved the addition of extra memory, CD-rom drives or larger hard discs. Some parts were scavenged from some computers that were to be thrown away. Accordingly we have now made three computers out of the five. Seven inexpensive software programmes have been obtained; some by donation. The students seem to be extending their learning enjoying this extra challenge of this new software.

Sadly on 8 March George Butler handed in his resignation to leave on 19 March to move to live at New Plymouth. On the 23rd we organised a well-attended barbecue farewell, which is recorded on video. As his successor for Supported Employment, I approached Paul Kelly Moore who was very interested as he had acquired experience in this field when working in the UK. I then approached Clive Backhouse, our College of Education volunteer who has been working with us for the past year whilst completing a degree. He was very pleased to accept three days a week employment. Again, we have an excellent team. We are always looking for contracting work if anyone can help or has contacts?

Auckland College of Education continues to place students for work experience and we have kept in close contact with Whitecliffe. Jan, Jeanette and I enjoyed a seminar at Whitecliffe College of Art and Design titled, 'Arts for Extraordinary Communities'.

The keynote address was given by Penny Eames, the Director of Arts Access Aotearoa, on the culture of art. Thanks to Jeanette and our art achievements, we received much accolade she can be very proud of. We plan to host this year's art exhibition 'Sunset Sunrise' from 12-19 November. The opening is on Friday 12 November at the 'Warm Fuzzies Gallery' in Newmarket. The theme is celebrating the new millennium and acknowledging recognition of the 1999 International year of the older person. Creative Communities have granted us the sum of \$500 towards the exhibition.

GENERAL

In regards to the Repairs and Maintenance programme, we have installed smoke detectors and magnetic door 'hold opening devices' for fire safety paid for by the generosity of a grant from the Royal Oak Trust.

Our referral was our friendly builder Les Ambury who we met as the building contractor for the office refurbishment. After Christmas while the Activity Centre was closed for holidays, Dave Hempleman was able to complete the tar sealing of the driveway, completing the office refurbishment.

The Ladies Auxilliary held their last street stall on Wednesday 28 April. They had decided the group have to retire due to lack of members. We owe them a great deal for all their tireless work, kindness and love.

Sadly, we have lost a few dear friends in the last few months. Our sympathy goes to Mary Fenton and family in the loss of their Mum, Ruth Grigor, who died on 1 January and our condolences to Bobbie Carter and family, in the loss of Des Carter on 19 January.

Those involved with IHC before Ranfurly may have seen that the previous manager, Audrey Fish, passed away suddenly on 22 January 1999. We have been sorry to see Elizabeth Grigor leave our respite care and the Activity Centre services, to live at Caughey Preston as a result of advanced medical problems.

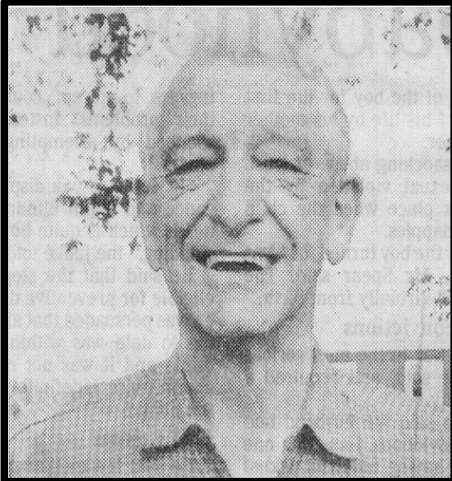
Finally, our sincere condolences to the family of John Green our dear friend, supporter and life member, who passed away after a prolonged illness in early August.

On a happier note, the members will be meeting again soon at the AGM to be held on Sunday 26th September meeting at 4.00pm. That will be a time for everyone to catch up with one another.

This is also a good time to get the diaries out to record the dates of the AGM, the Art Exhibition, the Garage Sale and Pauls fun evenings.

Love and God bless to you all.....Linda

JOHN GREEN, OUR FIRST PRESIDENT AND A LIFE MEMBER



The recent death of John Green has saddened us all very much. We are all indebted to him for the vital part he played in the founding of the Society.

John and his wife Phyllis moved to Auckland from Opotiki just prior to the Ranfurly property being put up for sale by IHC in 1991.

They contacted their friend Judy Carter about residential accommodation for their daughter, Jan, and she introduced them to the Cornwall Branch of IHC.

Jan became a resident at Ranfurly and shortly after that the property was put up for sale and a group of families who had been protesting the proposed sale for some time got together and formed Ranfurly Care Society to purchase and run the facility.

John was elected President of the fledgling Society and waged a tireless battle with enthusiasm and good humour until our objective was achieved.

I can well remember those early committee meetings at John and Phyllis's home when we agonised about how much we should tender for the property and where we would get the deposit from.

John was always confident that things would work out well, and indeed they did. But not without John arranging for a huge banner to be strung up between the oak trees on Manukau Road (a photograph of John and his daughter Jan under it appeared on the front page of the Herald).

After that, and many calls to talk-back radio, there were few tenders besides Ranfurly.

John led the Society ably in that early period and in later years always remained a staunch supporter of Ranfurly as long as his health permitted.

Our sincere sympathy to the Green family who have lost a devoted, husband, father and grandfather.

Elizabeth Ruth Grigor
16 January 1947 – 7 September 1999



Douglas Roy Eagleton



Elizabeth and Douglas have recently passed away our condolences to their families



**WE CAN NOW PROVIDE A WIDER RANGE
OF LIVING OPTIONS
FOR PEOPLE WITH VARYING LEVELS OF
NEED!**

Most of you will be aware that Ranfurly recently grasped the opportunity to purchase the flats previously owned by IHC at 45 Cornwall Park Ave, Epsom. We had very little time to make this decision as when we became aware that the property

was on the market, we had only 10 days until the close of tenders. However it seemed too good an opportunity to lose. It is within walking distance of Ranfurly, has been a facility for IH people for many years and therefore is accepted as such by the community. It is very centrally situated for buses etc., and is just across the road from the swimming pool and other recreational facilities offered by Laura Ferguson Trust. It was important to preserve confidentiality until our offer was accepted so we were unable to discuss the matter outside of the Executive, which was very difficult! We held a meeting of Members in March to inform them of details of the purchase and we took over the property at the beginning of July.

There are 11 flats on the site, 3 two bedrooms units, 6 one bedroom units and 2 studios. We will be providing 24 hour staff support for residents with support tailored to each individual's needs. We have sold the house fronting Great south Road, which will help to reduce our mortgage somewhat - this sale is awaiting the finalisation of the subdivision. The purchasers are a firm of Public Accountants. Perfect street numbers for accountants being 123!

One resident from IHC days has continued to live in his flat with us and there are currently four others in residence. People to occupy the remaining flats are waiting for their funding which has been a bit slow coming through from HFA. However at the moment the builders are working, thanks to the generosity of the ASB Trust, to refurbish the bathrooms in each flat and build a community kitchen/dining room. This kind of semi-independent living with an umbrella of protection and assistance as individually required is very hard to find.

Families have been hard at work painting and brightening their family member's flat and with the new bathrooms installed they will be most attractive homes. We have great plans to brighten up the grounds and improve the environment, which already boasts a most attractive barbecue and courtyard area, opening off what will be our new kitchen. Busy times for Linda and all the Executive members as we bring all our plans to reality!

We look forward to showing it you!

Regards Jan Mitchell President

LINKED TOGETHER – a delightful piece about friendship

A few years ago at the Seattle Special Olympics, nine contestants, all physically or mentally disabled, assembled at the starting line for the 100 yard dash, with a relish to run the race to the finish and win. They were off! All that is, except one boy who stumbled on the asphalt, tumbled over a couple of times and began to cry. The other eight heard the boy cry. They slowed down and looked back. They all turned around and went back. Every one of them. One girl with Down Syndrome bent down and kissed him and said, "This will make it better." All nine linked arms and walked across the finish line together. Everyone in the stadium stood, and the cheering went on for several minutes. People who were there are still telling the story. Why? Because deep down we know this one thing; What matters in this life is more than winning for ourselves. What truly matters in this life is helping others win, even if it means slowing down and changing our course. Need I say more?

On 23 July, Communicare celebrated their fortieth birthday with a function held at the Ellerslie Race Course. Guests arrived from as far away as Dargaville and Wanganui with a total of eight hundred guests attending. We enjoyed a lovely luncheon and were entertained by various musical and dance groups. Celebrities attending were Sir Barry Curtis, Merv Smith and others. The Master of Ceremonies for the function was Les Andrews who, with his singing, tales and jokes, certainly captivated the audience. Laan, Annette, Anne, Pam and Joy thoroughly enjoyed the whole function, which closed with a sing-a-long given by Les and Sonia Andrews.

On Sunday 8 August we took two teams to compete in the Special Olympics Fun Day up at Dargaville. Chris Martin, Bobbie and Geoff also travelled north to participate alongside our merry little gang of troopers, Cresse, Pam, Jan, Anne, Bruce, Gerard, Brett and Murray. The games played included badminton, indoor bowls, basketball, table tennis and even some rock climbing.

Everyone did very well and the Auckland team won first place in the Best Sports category ~ which reflects the wonderful attitude that they all share. It made for a long day, but worth every minute.

On Friday 6 August 6, we held our very first meeting of 'The Not Quite So Dead Poets Society' which was a great success. About two dozen people turned up to share in an evening of poetry, prose and song. The contributions varied greatly in their length, style and subject matter. Some were most profound, some were filled with vivid expressions of emotions and others were just plain funny! Paul has a copy of many of the poems that were read out and would be more than willing to share them with you sometime if you are interested.

We took the opportunity to raise money for Ranfurly's sponsored child (through World Vision), which resulted in a most generous total of \$180 being collected. With our commitment being \$30 a month, it means that our continued support for you Sufindo, in Zimbabwe, is guaranteed until next February, at least. We hope to run a similar evening next year.

Our people connected with Ranfurly's Activity Centre (or the Residential home) continue to be involved with Special Olympics activities such as swimming, walking, roller-blading, indoor bowls and ten-pin bowling being the main events.

Recently Auckland held a major ten-pin competition out at Henderson that took place over a complete weekend. It was great to see all of our competitors winning medals and ribbons of varying colours and then the unexpected bonus of meeting Angela Bloomfield (alias Rachel from Shortland Street). It helped to complete a most enjoyable weekend.

Other events planned this year are as follows: Friday 3 September, a Fun 'n' Games Evening. There will be individual and team games to enjoy, as well as the chance to just chill out together. Tickets will cost \$5.00.



Saturday 25 September is our annual Garage Sale, any bits 'n' pieces for us to sell ~ as well as any offers to help ~ will be gratefully received! Friday 29 October is our Trivia Quiz Challenge '99, which is pretty self-explanatory. Again tickets will be \$5.00 and we will be holding a raffle as we try to raise money to buy equipment for our new sensory room. Monday 13 December is our Christmas Concert. Our evening will include a production of Charles Dickens 'A Christmas Carol', some Carol singing and some Yuletide refreshments!



My trip to Fiji
On Tuesday 6th July Lynn and I went to Fiji for a week holiday. We had a wonderful time taking photos of different things we went back to see our home that we live in when my parents live in Fiji. We visit our house lady she lives in a village with her son and his daughter in law and four children. Stella has had a stroke but she is very happy Lynn and I enjoy our day with her. We laugh and carry on what we did when I live in Fiji. We had a wonderful holiday and did what we want to do.

Friday 31 December we will be able to see in the new millennium together with our very own Jukebox party 2000, it will start at 8.45pm and will finish at 1.00am. Tickets will be \$10.00. Please contact Paul Kelly-Moore for tickets for the Fun 'n' Games

Evening, Trivia Quiz Challenge'99 and the Jukebox party 2000, telephone 630 3010.

Sunday Outing on 6 June 1999 by Chauria

Pam, Natasha, and Lyn took a taxi to the Aotea Centre to join in with the Festival of Performing Arts. When we left Ranfurly we had no idea what to expect but as soon as we arrived we knew we were in for a treat. People were buzzing everywhere, the drums were drumming, guitars playing and people singing, we just walked around soaking up the atmosphere. Eventually we ventured in and climbed the stairs to the main theatre. We had reached the dress circle and sat on the very back seats, we were entertained by the performers from the Maidment Theatre who sang and did some very funny skits. After a ten minute interval we were

treated to the Auckland Dance Company who danced 'Pounamu' and 'Voyages'. During the interlude we heard the magic sound of the Harp being played by Yi Jing of the NZSO. It was very moving and we all enjoyed it very much. The final performance for the day was very different and very loud as we sat and clapped and joined in with Dalvanious and the Patea Maori Cultural Group. It was all a heap of fun and a day that we shouldn't forget.

This newsletter gives everyone at Ranfurly the opportunity to wish all our many friends and associates a very 'Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year'. After each newsletter edition we enjoy feedback from our friends who contact us with comments of what they have read.

The last six months has been a period of auditing resulting in the August, Health Funding Agency (HFA) audit which gave commendations to the home. Following that the HFA asked the auditors to do a pre-audit on Cornwall Park Avenue after we mutually agreed to the prior Terms of Reference. Soon after this our financial auditors – Gilligan Shepherd completed their audit in time for the AGM. We are still involved in major changes and because of the change of government and uncertainty about the future of the HFA's etc. contracts are now being rolled until 30 June 2000.

RESIDENTIAL HOME NEWS

We must start with a big welcome to the new residents at Cornwall Park Avenue and the Ranfurly Home. Then of course there is the staff, the pivotal ingredient of the organisation to provide our people with a home away from home. Vicki and Andrea moved into the Ranfurly flat as Geoff Watson has moved to CPA. The Justice Department PD team painted the upstairs flat and Jenny remade curtains, new carpet was laid, and Jan sourced an excellent lounge suite. A real team effort, the result, 'it's looking good'.

Parents and residents meetings continue as a means of family interaction and communication. The week following the last residents meeting, Shirley the facilitator, kindly helped the residents decorate their Christmas tree. The home has hosted two UNITEC nurses, Maria Bartolome (known as Doreen), and Tim Young, for their three week placement and I think it would be fair to say enlightenment. The first of this year's resident's holidays was organised by Jenny and Brett enjoying the Rotoroa Island venue from 2 - 9 November. Earlier in the month three residents accompanied Margaret Whitta for a holiday in Surfers Paradise. Yes, as one can imagine everyone is so pleased that Margaret keeps returning using the phrase "this trip is definitely the last time".

The home has been very busy with 'short stays' while we have been waiting for funding to be confirmed for the new residents. Special Olympics continue with indoor bowls, regular dances and prize giving. Joy Ministries continue to hold regular dances and, as with the former, many people with disabilities living in the community joining with the fun.

We extend thanks to both of these organisations for providing so much enjoyment to so many people. Also once again thanks to the many companies who sponsor the World Festival of Magic organised by the Remuera Lions club. This year everyone said it was as an extra special magic time. The Santa parade is still all time favourite. The reports are kept in the outing diary for families and residents to share experiences.

A big welcome to Ailsa Riddle, our Cornwall Park Residential Coordinator, who has become second mum to everyone at CPA. In July, Ailsa was very quickly initiated into the routine at CPA as Murray (a transfer resident from IHC) was taken ill at midnight of her fourth day. He ended up in hospital for a week after two emergency call outs. Reluctantly, he then recuperated at Ranfurly Care for a few days.

Our next Cornwall Park challenge is to look for and purchase an automatic van for outings etc.

Repairs and Maintenance

Thanks to the generosity and continued support of the ASB Trust, the builder Ambridge Construction started work on CPA refurbishment on 12 August. The bathrooms have been modernised and made more spacious by demolishing the previously two tiny dark rooms of separate shower and toilet.

A new kitchen is now installed in what was the old garage site. Jan and I enjoyed picking out the fittings and Melteca colours etc. The laundry has been completed, the television aerials wired and most of the units painted. Dave, our friendly electrician has moved the power supply from the original motel office at 123 Great South Road, directly to the units. The telephone system transfer is complete and jack points have been fitted in all units. The water supply has been connected by Metrowater and all the units have been master keyed. A wireless receiver unit and remote alarm system has been installed for the residents safety.

The Story of a Street with three names

Ranfurly Road in Epsom

by Hilda Wiseman

Imagine, if you can, in this year of grace 1973, Ranfurly Road a sea of mud in winter and of dust in summer, a lamp-lighter going around on his push-bike twice a day lighting up and turning out gas lamps at the corners of roads, and cows being driven up and down from paddocks now occupied by the Normal School, to be milked in a cowshed behind the Maytown Store at the corner of Manukau Road - about half a dozen houses in all, and you have the road as it was in the early years of this century. At that time two nursery gardens occupied some acres on either side of the road, a large ditch took care of surplus water and drainage was not introduced for many years. The east end of the road was at one time dignified with a gas lamp set on an island at the junction with Market Road.

Ranfurly Road is the third name given to the street, the first being May Road and the second Brown Street, possibly after the William Brown who was Sir John Logan Campbell's partner in business and who lived on the Manukau Road nearby. The block of land stretching out towards Onehunga from Ranfurly Road was originally known as Maytown. It comprised at first 62 acres, claimed by Joseph May in 1846 and alleged to have been bought from the native chief Wetere for a consideration of £33 10s. It was bordered on the east by the property of Mr Dilworth and Mr T. Henry, on the north by the properties of Mr Hare, Mr Turner and Mr Austin and on the south by Mr Hart's (Pah Farm) land. The purchase was under Pre-emption certificate No 64 and would have had to come before the Land Commissioner. May seems to have been finally granted 59 acres in November 1847.

Joseph May was a very early Auckland settler, having arrived in 1840. He was married in Saint Paul's Church in 1843 to Helen Wilson and they had five children. For his first few years he lived in the town and followed the trade of a carpenter and carter but from 1845 he is described as a farmer and from 1848 he resided at Mount St John - that is, on the Maytown block of land, where he became a successful farmer and breeder of stock.

In June 1859 Maytown was put up for sale by auction. The paper *New Zealander* describes the land as 'sites for Villas, Cottage Residences, Market Gardens, etc' situate on the Onehunga Road, near the 'Halfway House' and about three miles from Auckland. There were 56 allotments possessing 'rich soil, elevated ground, commanding magnificent views of the Flagstaff, entrances to the Auckland Harbour, the Manukau and Coromandel Ranges'. It was stated that 'New Comers, Mechanics and

Labourers will find this a most profitable mode of investment, as land in the neighbourhood is daily increasing in value'. The title was unexceptionable and Luncheon was to be provided at the Auction in Frazer's Building, Queen Street. A report in the paper the next week states that the auction was well attended and good prices received, the average for eleven lots on the Onehunga Road being 23s per foot. Large lots in Brown Street brought from 18s to 20s per foot and only a few lots were left unsold. Mr Cheeseman, the auctioneer, considered these prices remarkably good. He said in his reminiscences that he remembered Epsom on the Mount Eden side as 'a wilderness of scrub and scoria blocks', with only one small cottage and the three residences of Joseph May, James Dilworth and James Williamson.

Early land owners in the eastern part of Ranfurly Road were Mr Donald Petrie, a school inspector, and two Gordon families, Henry and Angus. Saint George's Church now occupies the property formerly owned by Angus Gordon and the hall behind it incorporates some of the old house. Before the church was built in 1915, Anglican services were held in a barn on the farm of Major and Mrs Nelson George, named 'Wapiti'. The building was used for its intended purposes during the week, finishing up

with a dance on Saturday nights. On Sundays, the organist often found it difficult to play the hymns, as the organ kept slipping away from her on the polished floor. The services were at times interrupted by a few farmyard animals wandering in, sometimes only hens but also at times a horse and donkey. Services were held in the barn regularly for two and a half years. Mrs George bought the Gordon property, conveying it to the Diocese, and paid for the erection of the church.

A large section of land next to the church was bought by Mr Charles Spooner, who called his house 'Te Kohanga'. Other well-known residents at this end of the road were Mr Richard Hull, Mr Kenneth Eady and the Reverend Joseph Kemp. Many old and not-so-old houses have recently been pulled down to make way for the Knox Home for the Elderly. Miss Sheath conducted a school called 'FitzRoy' in a two-storied house at this end of the road for a number of years.

We now come to Ranfurly Road on the western side of Manukau Road where there was an old wooden store, complete with hitching post, built in 1867 and owned by Mr B. P. Olesen, who ran the business with the help of his wife and family and 'Old Ned', as we children used to call him. Old Ned's duties included driving the cart with the grocery orders and milking the cows in the shed behind the store. Young Archie Olesen was forever tearing round the countryside on a horse and I would often say to myself, 'There goes that madcap Archie dashing off again!' It was not until many years later that he told me that he was delivering telegrams, the store being also the post office. My belated apologies to Mr Archie Olesen! The store was still called Maytown Store and Post Office in my young days. The old wooden store was removed in 1923 to Mount Albert Road, opposite the Borough Council buildings, where it still stands; it was replaced by the present brick building containing shops and professional rooms and the work of the post office was taken over by the new building further down Manukau Road.

Opposite the store was the beautiful seven-acre property bought by the Auckland solicitor, J. B. Russell, in 1884, a lovely, comfortable family home which saw many pleasant parties and gatherings while the Russell's and the Carr's lived there, a period of 75 years. The house, which was built about 1865 by a merchant, Henry Ellis, still stands, the present owner being Mr O. W. Ferris. The beautiful gardens, unfortunately, have been cut up and sold as building sections but some of the trees are still to be seen on the Marivare Reserve, at the corner of the road. This reserve was presented to the City by Mrs Austin Carr on condition that the Spanish oaks planted by J. B. Russell should not be cut down. The Reserve was formally opened by the Mayor, Mr Gunson, in 1919; a stone archway was added to commemorate the fallen in two world wars.* A large part of the Carr estate has now passed into the hands of the Intellectually Handicapped Children's Society and new buildings are being erected, the old house near the corner which was once Marivare stables having been removed some years ago.

On the brow of the hill across the road from Marivare, Mr John Brown bought three acres in 1884, building a large home with stables and coach-house. Later he acquired another four acres, extending his property as far as Gillies Avenue. This home was called 'Glen Ayre' and was later lived in by his son, Alan St Clair Brown until it was sold to the Misses Coupland, and is now 'Aotea' Hospital. When the rest of the estate was subdivided about the turn of the century, Mr John Brown's two daughters, Mrs H. J. D. Mahon and Mrs Raymond Biss lived there and two sections were bought by my father, Alexander Wiseman, in 1908; he designed and built our family home where, at the time of writing, I am still living. Our second section was bought by Charles Hebblethwaite in 1924 and his grandchildren still live in the house he built. Our other next-door neighbour was Mr Preston Chambers, who built in 1913; his son, Melby, still occupies the old house. The

market gardens which used to run back from the Olesen's store survived for some years but in 1886 one of them passed into the hands of Mr John Newland, who built his house over an old well. This passed to his son Charles Newland, and his granddaughter still lives on part of the property.

The other market garden, on Gillies Avenue, was managed by an Irishman named Costello, who on occasion was inclined to drink too much. On Saturday nights, wending his rather unsteady way home, he used to call on Mrs Hamlin, the widow of an early missionary, who also lived in our street. By her, he was sternly warned, 'Go home, Costello!' Mrs Hamlin had lived through the Maori Wars and was hiding in a ditch from a hostile party when one of her children was born. Descendants of another missionary family, the well-known James Wallis of Raglan, also lived in Ranfurly Road in a charming old house built by a Mr Haldiday. Ranfurly Road residents on the whole seem to be stayers. Other early families were those of Mr Gilbert Hawken, whose descendants of the fourth generation still live in the old home; William Lane, who in his day was an editor of the *Herald* and the Honourable Francis Mander, whose daughter, was the well-known novelist, Jane, also lived in the road.

The name Ranfurly Road was adopted in honour of the Governor who held office from 1897 to 1904. Today the road is tar-sealed and every available section is built on; gone is the peaceful country atmosphere; we have electricity instead of a gas lamp and a tax-stand in place of a hitching-post.

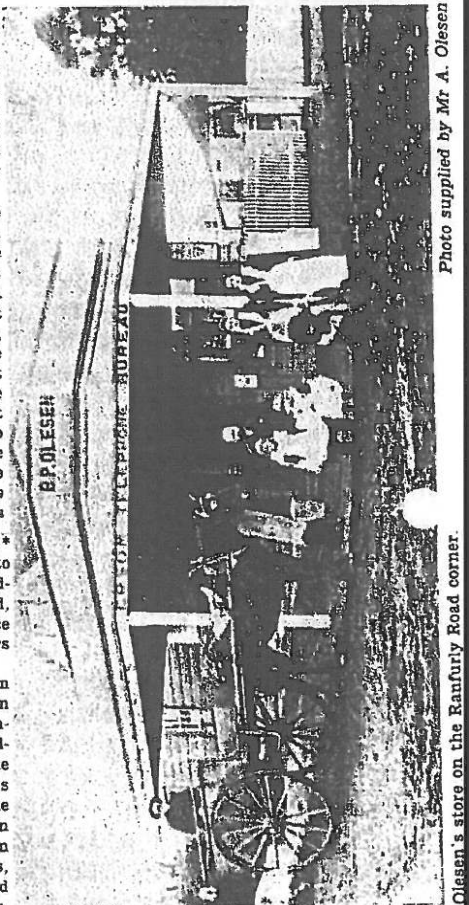


Photo supplied by Mr A. Olesen

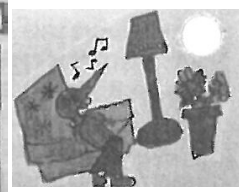
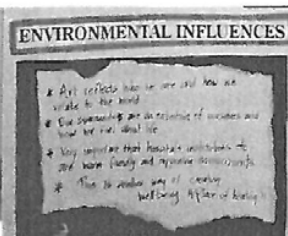
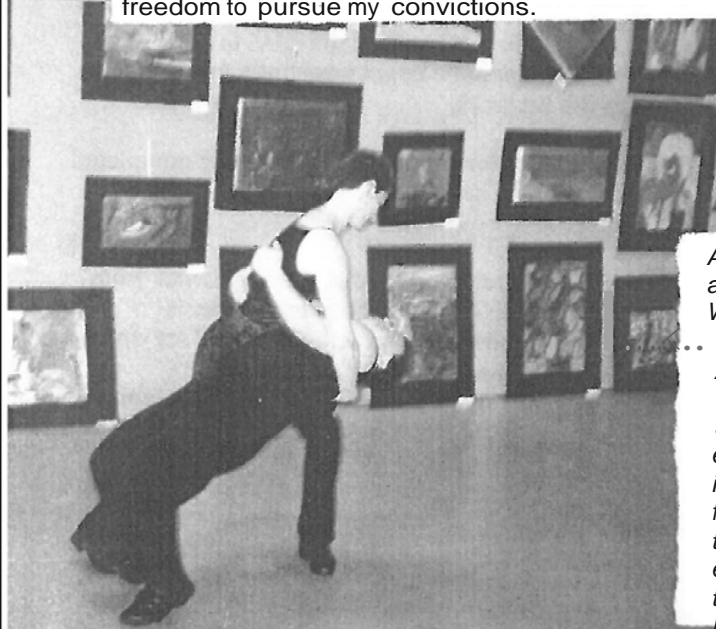
Olesen's store on the Ranfurly Road corner.

have really enjoyed working with the people at Ranfurly Care. The highlight of my work over the last six and a half years has been learning so much about art through our peoples' spontaneity and

enthusiasm. I shall also miss very much-

- the baking group and our sometimes "successful failures"
- the cheer our people bring to appreciative patients on their visits to Elizabeth Knox Hospital and Retirement Village
- the enthusiasm of the people in the Amnesty/World Vision group
- the wonderful enjoyment our people show when singing and their appreciation of music and dance
- shopping at Pak'n'Save on a Wednesday morning, with Douglas's cheery greetings to customers, Jan talking nonstop, admiring a baby and reminding me to buy film for Joy, Selwyn pushing the trolley, and above all, all the love Ranfurly students shower on everyone.

Last but not least I'll miss other staff members and parents. Although I am leaving, I shall still have contact with Ranfurly, as I am going to set up an Arts Studio for people with disabilities in Association with Arts Access Aotearoa and other groups. I can't give any details yet as this is an entirely new venture barely in its initial stage. If anyone is interested please contact me at 630-7729 or e-mail me at illiated@ihug.co.nz. If I have time next year, I would still like to take Ranfurly people to art classes at Whitecliffe. I am grateful to Linda and Ranfurly Care for the freedom to pursue my convictions.



Anne Johnston attended six evening classes in abstract painting with a support-person at Whitecliffe College.

Comments from other members of the class were that Anne was good value. Of course Anne thoroughly enjoyed the course and wants to go again. Jan Green attended one class when the course was extended and thoroughly enjoyed it. She was very interested in class members who were assembling frames for canvasses. When the support-person turned up on her own on the last night of the extended classes, the tutor and other members of the class seemed disappointed that she had no Ranfurly student with her.



Ranfurly Art in Sydney on from 23-26 March 2000

On 26 November Bridget Sneddon, the National Organizer for the Down Syndrome Association, invited Ranfurly Care to exhibit paintings in the "A show 200

Art Exhibition", organized by the Down Syndrome Association of Victoria and Arts Project Australia Incorporated. Paintings will be framed in Australia and hung at Parliament House, Sydney, in conjunction with 1st World Down Syndrome Congress on from 23-26 March 2000. The show then travels on to Melbourne and Geelong.

A condition of entry is that work has to be the original work of the artist. Collaborative work is not accepted. Congratulations to, Caresse Knight, for her painting,

'To the Inner Sanctuary', Lyn Davidson, for her painting 'Flowers Through Window', and Karl Jensen, for his painting, 'Little Boxes' that have been sent to Australia for this exhibition. Artists agreed that their paintings are for sale.

NEWSLETTER

52 - 56 Ranfurly Road, Epsom
Phone or Fax 630-3010
Auckland

NEWSLETTER No 23 - AUGUST 2000

Life rolls on in the 'Year of the Dragon' and the first year of the 'New Millennium' as does our HFA contracts that have been rolled over until June 2001 as we operate on a 'variation to contract'. There is nothing more constant than change and the Disability service sector has been saturated over the past decade, quite frankly, enough is enough. A recent news item stated 'Let us now run a Health Service not a Business?' We are optimistic that there will be some future good news in the sector with the appointment of the Hon Ruth

Dyson who has started the ball rolling by setting up a reference group to advise Government on disability strategy.

Congratulations to the Hon Ruth Dyson, the first-ever Minister for Disability issues. She has been attending the Auckland Disability Providers Network (ADSPN) since inception therefore has a handle on Auckland problems that are quite different to the rest of NZ. Judith Lunny, the ADSPN co-ordinator, has been elected to represent the group on the recent Ruth Dyson reference group consultations. If you are interested in keeping up with current information, Ruth has a newsletter 'Participate' you can order through Wellington (04) 470-6570 or email www.executive.govt.nz/minister/dyson. It is important that as many as possible take part in the Strategy Consultation. The update is enclosed.

On 16 June the Auckland Disability Providers Network organised a further informative forum, chaired by Robyn Stent (the retired Health and Disability Commissioner) with Jeff Richardson from HFA giving the opening address. Unfortunately, the Hon Ruth Dyson was unable to attend because of Wellington's fog but a copy of her speech refers to some of the current Government plans and is available if anyone is interested. (Incidentally I believe the new politically correct name for disability is now to be *impairment!*)

The December HFA meeting, the first after the election, was once again in disarray with the Government now restructuring the HFA so once again it is back to the drawing board.

Here we are nearly at AGM time again, the 10th if we count the very first one held in late December 1991. The preliminary AGM notice has been sent with an invitation for new members to join the Society. This is not an Election Year therefore no nominations for office are required.

Thankfully there were no Y2K problems though we were well prepared in the case of emergency.

We had a lovely response to our last newsletter from our dear friend and guardian angel, May Harvey, who phoned for a chat to say how happy she was to receive the December newsletter and is 100% behind last year's expansion and all that we have been doing.

RESIDENTIAL HOME NEWS

The two homes are running smoothly with twenty nine happy residents and we continue to host many short stays. Chaunia is methodically plodding away creating very graphic and comprehensive life histories for all the new students and residents. Consequently, we have been very busy with all the subsequent mandatory meetings. Cornwall Park Avenue's refurbishment is nearly completed with the shed, laundry, awning, drainage upgrades, security doors, and the exterior lighting - once the fence is built we will take a well-earned breather.

We have had a good winter probably thanks to the 27 flue injections administered by Dr Akroyd.

Since

Christmas, the Activity Centre staff took two groups – totalling 14 residents, on holiday to the Orewa 'GIFT' home where they provided an excellent programme including a trip to Paihia. Sadly, this home is soon to be replaced by units so we took a further opportunity using the site as the venue for the annual family day picnic. Four residents recently went to the Joy Ministries camp held at Totara Springs and six residents are planning a Margaret Whitta Melbourne holiday from 18-25 October. We continue to hold family and residents' meetings. We still attend many Special Olympic Social events and their indoor and ten-pin bowls.

Once again, many thanks to the Newmarket Rotary Club who sent 25 movie tickets for the residents to enjoy 'Toy Story' and to Chaunia for procuring free tickets from Vodafone to take the excited residents to a Warriors' match on 30 July.

In June we took delivery of new burgundy and gray dining room chairs and tables, courtesy of the late Pauline Brooks donation designated for lounge furniture. We put the old unwanted chairs onto the kerbside and they disappeared overnight!

We miss Nazma who left to live in Sydney so take this opportunity of welcoming Patina, Tania, Teresa and Wendy onto the team.

ACTIVITY CENTRE NEWS

We are now eight months into the daily timetable incorporating new staff and students. We were successful in employing Glynis Bielecki for three days a week. She had worked at the centre as a College of Education student during the year. Once again we have a very motivated productive team.

WINZ recently brought the Wellington manager, Geraldine Woods to visit Ranfurly in order to get an understanding of an Auckland service provider. We discussed Supported Employment and our day programmes. WINZ again contracted the Activity Centre for the year 2000 – 2001 on receiving our submission of 'Proposal to Purchase Vocational Services'. As requested, we recently sent a contingent of students to meet Mike Gourley and Wendy Wicks who were contracted by WINZ to do a study of student expectations of vocational services. I attended the second meeting from the service provider's perspective.

Penny Eames, the director from Arts Access Aotearoa, called to discuss art and her desire for Ranfurly to form a dance company as in her eyes we pursue excellence for people with an Intellectual Disability. On their recommendation we employed Anne Dewey as a dance tutor to take the now very popular weekly lessons. Ginny, from the Wellington office recently called in to 'sit in on a session', and to take some photos with the objective of writing an article for their next booklet publication. They are very impressed with the class, as we are with Anne.

The staff received much accolade for the 1999 Christmas play and entertainment. It was an excellent evening with over two hundred attending. Bob made an excellent video of the evening and made copies to sell - some are still available.

The Activity Centre staff are all working very hard in great team spirit with the students towards production and costuming for our end of year production of 'Cinderella'. Jenny has made most of the costumes and impressive full width stage curtains and the woodwork groups pumpkin coach is nearly completed. A drama production is this year's focus instead of an Art Exhibition.

Everybody was very excited to see the Olympic torch recently being carried along Manukau Road. Good luck to our athletes in the 'soon to be' September Olympic Games. I am sure there will be the usual surprise winners and gold medals

STAFF TRAINING

Aaron attended a College of Education course by Michael Kendrick, 'Key Elements of High Quality Time.' I accepted an invitation from SAMS, for an interesting 'informal caregivers pilot course'. Most staff attended a C.A.R.E. training session on medication to help elderly anxious residents and the importance of consistency in care. Three staff members attended a day course, 'Designing Creative Day and Activity Programmes' facilitated by Pam Paset at the College of Education which is designed for students who have difficulty in communicating. Aaron took a group to the Laser Sport complex for a fun trial run and in March, completed an AUT course, 'Fitness Foundations'. This is part one of a personal trainer course with part two in April.

This is an opportunity to introduce to the new families in both centres the Activity Centre staff.

Glynis Bielecki is at the Auckland College of Education two days a week completing her diploma course in Teaching People with Disabilities. She is enjoying the practical experience of taking a variety of classes. The cooking class involves a variety of baking and introducing some meal ideas.

Hygiene is encouraged, especially the washing of hands and the cleaning of the kitchen. The modelling dough session has made wall tiles or pots using colours to paint the finished product, which are then baked. The van outings are seen as a social community outing, talking about the environment and experiencing new activities. Crafts include drawing, weaving, often to music. Writing is for the students to learn about other countries or topical events, some computer work with word processing. Often the focus is correspondence with our adopted disabled girl through 'World Vision'. Music is singing favourite songs, moving with music and singing often utilising the Karaoke machine. Music and movement provides a safe environment for self-expression. It is a mechanism providing time and space to be loud, to use up lots of energy and to have fun!

Joy Jane specialises in craft groups, which includes a large variety of projects. The first 20 minutes of each session is spent on writing, current events and reading. The weekly programmes are set each week with different projects and are also associated with celebrations such as Easter, Anzac, Valentine's Day, St Patricks' Day, and Christmas etc. Making cards for these occasions is another part of the activity. This year they have made chickens out of pom-poms, spiders from pipe cleaners, knitting scarves, made chocolate using moulds, created individual scrapbooks using photos of themselves, often taken in the photography group and they also put together group activity photo albums etc. Craftwork is often made while listening to soothing classical music. Joy's afternoon sessions include swimming, indoor bowls, music and community visits. Education is Joy's other specialty and as well as many one-to-one sessions is where she uses the resources of the correspondence school to set individual learning programmes to improve student abilities and skills. English is also taught through correspondence to Ranfurly's many friends that we continue to keep in contact with. The listening post is used as a system allowing several students at a time using earphones to listen to stories while following a story book.

Clive Backhouse is working full time this year after completing his Auckland College of Education degree. He has forgone his skills as a dispensing optician to teach in this field. Swimming at the Laura Ferguson pool is a chance for students to experience swimming/water safety. Some students are happy just to be in the water, whereas other students gradually gain confidence by moving around the pool independently. Several students have gained new skills and confidence with their swimming.

Walk/coffee groups provide the chance to gain confidence when walking and learn new social skills in a community environment visiting local cafe establishments. The housie/music group is an opportunity to learn number skills in a competitive environment. Music involves all students, providing a climate for individual gifts to be used i.e. singing, etc. Cooking gives the students the opportunity to experience cooking in a safe environment and extend their living skills. Baking involves the chance to make morning tea for the whole group. Individual cooking involves a couple of students. They start by firstly going shopping for the meal menu, e.g. a visit to the super market. The process involves planning and buying the ingredients, payment, preparation and cooking. Again this provides an opportunity for students to gain confidence in preparing a meal.

Art is an opportunity for individuals to express themselves through a different medium, usually paint or crayons and is sometimes directed to a particular theme or at other times self-directed. Sign Language is basic sign language (NZ sign). Students learn by using a white board for drawing a subject that the group has to guess. Trivial Pursuit provides a competitive environment with two teams usually answering general knowledge questions. It is a chance for students to become involved in competitive action games and draw. The morning walks are for small groups, e.g. two or three students to walk in the local environment and is a chance for people to chat and have time away from a group.

Paul Kelly-Moore works in both sectors of the Activity Centre, taking Activity Centre groups and managing the Supported Employment. He has a strong interest in promoting drama as validated in the successful 1999 twenty-minute production of 'A Christmas Carol'. This year's Drama group consists of 14 Ranfurly students working towards an hour-long 2000 pantomime 'Cinderella'. The full cast includes 4 staff members as well as a sibling of one of our ex-Ranfurly students.

By contributing their very different and varied skills and abilities all the Activity Centre staff are involved in the production. This year's goal is, for participants to have fun. The production will be performed twice in front of 100 people each night. We hope that the participants feel that their contribution is significant, in return promoting their self-worth. The once a week 'Nails' group involves students working on the gib board washer and nails production line. This work is done in conjunction with Disabled Citizens in Dominion Road, who donate a payment for each completed box. There is no pressure on the quantity of boxes completed and our aim is to donate the money raised to our World Vision sponsored child.

Library sessions include students visiting the local Epsom Library. The objective is for the students to enjoy, and take advantage of the opportunities to read and improve their respective reading skills. All are supported in choosing either a fiction or non-fiction book. Time is spent at the beginning of each session, sitting with the group and listening to their respective book reviews then visit the Library to swap or exchange the books for new choices.

Arran Groshinski has completed two AUT courses this year to concentrate on formulating a fitness programme to help the students with their physical well being, including weight control and fitness. The course topics are "Fitness Foundations" and "Prescription for Exercise." He promotes exercise through indoor games. His Woodwork programme has included the restoration of an oak table and small wood projects including some art framing. He is involving students in building the set for the end of year play production. He has been very involved in creating innovative equipment for visual stimulation in the sensory room created by Jenny last year.

Jenny Baker organises the gardening, ground maintenance and glass house propagation with the assistance of the Corrections Dept., PD team. This gives the students a greater sense of responsibility and appreciation of the aesthetics of a well-kept garden. Another responsibility is the maintenance of our large aviary, designed to promote an understanding, responsibility and appreciation of other living creatures. Hand Puppets are another specialised medium used by Jenny as a communication tool. The weekly Ladies Fellowship Community Integration involves a special sharing time spent together in a very hospitable Christian environment, culminating in a successful social integration with members of the church and the extended community. Her physical fitness class involves two staff taking the water - walking group to the Henderson community pool each week. Jenny is also a proficient seamstress and therefore has responsibility as the costume designer for drama productions.

This year Anna Clarkson, an artist, and a real gem has been taking a specialist art class each Friday. Anna is a volunteer art teacher that is producing excellent group and individual results. Many, many, thanks, Anna. Art provides the opportunity for expressing themselves as individuals in a fail-proof structure. Colour and form are unique to each person thus providing a safe environment where the expression of individuality is neither right nor wrong. There is usually always a sense of achievement and an improvement in self-esteem in any creation.

This year, we have had an excellent response from families providing cash for coffee outings as the students love cappuccinos, and with 'cash in hand'; we are able to make many spontaneous visits.



Teddy and Alister Martin with Linda in the Activity Centre

Welcome to our new tenant, Richard Worth.

Helena Matheson is returning to work from the Special Olympic office as Laurie Mc Donald now works from home until retirement. *Au Revoir, God bless you all Linda*

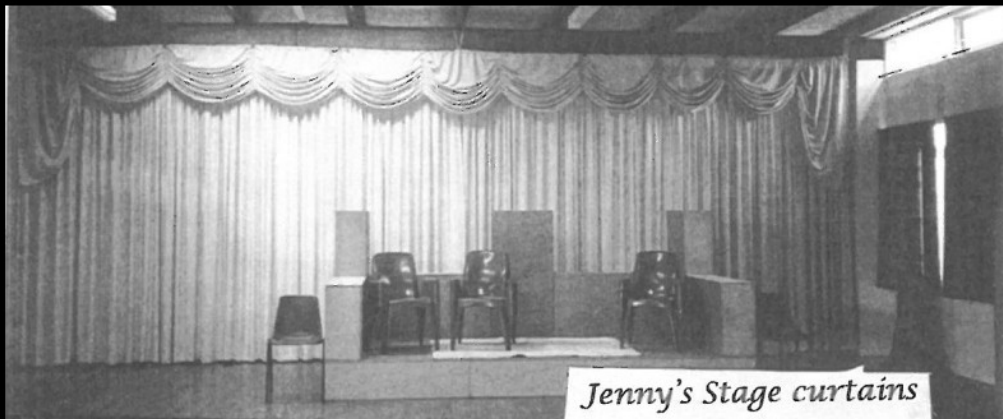
REMEMBER... The GARAGE SALE on 30th SEPTEMBER

Dear Florence fate intervened in our introduction to one another when we first met from differing perspectives, I as the mother of an intellectually disabled daughter and you as a sibling of a disabled brother, dear Jan. The venue was in July 1991 when I had just returned from the Wellington IHC AGM where we were told the Ranfurly site was to be put u for sale by tender. The first time we met at that Mays road meeting you gave a donation for a cause you believed in, Ranfurly. From then on a close friendship was formed. One of the last things you said to me was that "one has many acquaintances but very few friends" and how you appreciated our friendship.

You chose the difficult path of medicine in a time th was predominantly a male domain. You were an achiever from the beginning. As a St Cuthbert's College pupil you were the first to achieve the honou and status of qualifying in the field of medicine. You gained respect as a surgeon who attained a fellowship after years of study at Otago and later in the UK and Scotland. You practiced in NZ, Scotland, London at Perivale, another coincident as the maternity hospital was where my Linda was born a year earlier, then returning to establish the ultra sc unit at National Woman's. In our friendship I found in Florence a person with high standards of perfection who didn't suffer fools gladly, one on an exceptional se discipline, high principles, etiquette, n a thirst for knowledge, and the love of history. I perceived your universe to be the Jove off medicine and your family. You shared with me your Jove of music, religion, books, travel and of times spent with friends and family. I also remember how when one wasn't well you issued the dreaded cornflour paste. Through your association with Ranfurly you made many new and lasting friendships who will all miss you. We always said there is nothing Florence can't do, sometimes I might add a little bit enviously. Your culinary skills, sewing, craft, gardening to create a sense of ambience and beauty, electrical, plumbing, building, you were a pianist, whatever, nothing was too difficult or put in the too hard basket. You have left your mark in so many ways to so many of us including the delivery of hundreds of babies. My onl regret is that I hadn't managed to get to Papamoa in person to see the racy Lamborghini and your new home you were so happy in. Au revoir, my friend. '!

2 March 1 939 - 14 October 1999





Jenny's Stage curtains



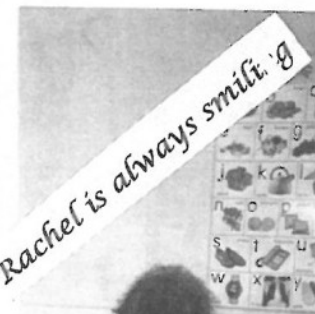
Women's Fellowship mid-year choir



Susie's highest score in Ten-Pin Competition against North Harbour



St Patrick's Day



Rachel is always smiling



Family Day at Orewa

NEWSLETTER

52 - 56 Ranfurly Road, Epsom
Phone or Fax 630-3010
Auckland

Dear Friends,

Once again it is hard to believe the year is almost over and what a busy year it has been. We are now in countdown mode for the Activity Centre's December production of 'Cinderella' and the variety of Christmas events and projects yet to be completed. I feel that sometimes we need to remind ourselves of the saying, "don't hurry, don't worry, you're only here for a short visit, so be sure to stop and smell the flowers!"

I have recently indulged in just that by spending three weeks on holiday with my daughter and her husband who live in San Francisco. Yes, there the shops are bursting with Christmas goodies and the decorations were something else. However, the most enjoyable times were quality times spent together when we stopped, "to smell the flowers" by enjoying nature's special gifts such as visiting the Yosemite National Park or just walking on a beach and feeling alive.

I was disappointed to learn on my return that the Minister of Disabilities the Hon. Ruth Dyson had stepped down through a major indiscretion and that will mean more change is in the pipeline. At least, the strategic plan has been established. Lester Mundell, who is the Chief Advisor to the Government, wrote to the Auckland Disability Service Providers Group to confirm that, DSS funding will not be divulged to the (Health Boards) in the first instance. When the HFA (Health Funding Agency) and the Ministry are merged it will be administered by the Ministry of Health.

In effect this will mean the HFA localities acting as an outreach station of the Ministry. Then, following the sign-off on the NZ Disability Strategy and the positive Aging Strategy, the Government will decide (next March), how disability funding will be administered. So we now await 2001 to see the outcome of the new NZ Public Health and Disability Bill, when the HFA will no longer be carrying out its role as the funder of public health services. Thus, then for all practical purposes, the HFA will cease to exist and the public funder will be the Ministry of Health.

I would like to thank all of you who took the time to make a submission to the Governments' strategic plan. It is important that we continue to have input into important Government decisions, as there is such an enormous range of disabilities represented in the sector.

The HFA are presently working alongside and consulting with DPA (Disabled Persons Association). This is excellent, but we need to be aware that they are not consulting with a group that represents all people with a disability. For example people with a dual diagnosis, those with a severe intellectual disability, the non-verbal, those who are unable to communicate or those with autism etc. In essence I believe it is our responsibility to

try and be involved by contributing to major policy decisions. We are then advocating for the special needs group that cannot live independently and need to live in a safe protected environment.

The HFA have advised that the Needs Assessment (NASC) contract has been awarded for four groups, Puukaki ki Te Aakitai, Health Pacific, NZCCS Auckland, and Assess Ability Ltd., a Taranaki

based company. They take over from 3 December and plan to be based, working together, in South Auckland premises.

Ranfurly networks with all the other small Northland / Auckland area IDSP (Intellectually Disabled Service Providers), by attending or facilitating monthly meetings. The feeling is “United we stand, divided we fall!” The HFA meet with the small providers group every two months. Recently the main topic and focus has been transparent funding. However, I have now been informed that this has been delayed until July 2002. It is our turn to host the December small service providers meeting so we may learn more about this then.

Since our last meeting, we have had our annual AGM (which was held on the 24 September) with an interesting guest speaker, Russell Vickery, who is contracted by the HFA. The Society also had the pleasure of welcoming eight newly approved Guardian Members. Excellent news for the meeting was that Ranfurly Care has been able to repay a smaller mortgage established when purchasing CPA. The result is a modestly increased cash flow instead of paying principal and interest. As always, our focus is on mortgage reduction with the objective being to provide greater security and independence for the Society.

Chris Wren started work on 11 September as a part-time administrator. It has been a big help having Chris working in the mornings to help with the phone, preparing and attending Lifestyle Plan meeting, recording minutes and other typing and reception duties. Bob is back from his holiday and continues to work in the afternoons on our accounts and any other administrative or computer related tasks.

WINZ recently forwarded a “Vocational Services Review – Terms of Reference” as prepared by the Department of Labour. Our application has resulted in some additional funding for the Activity Centre.

CPA NEWS

Everything is now proceeding just as we envisaged, thanks to all our motivated and able staff. It is so rewarding to be able to witness a large personal growth for all our new residents as they develop their own individual skills due to a more independent life style. The Epsom location is ideal, being situated within walking distance of a local post office, dairy, library, Food town, public transport, a swimming pool and gym, specialised shops, which all provide opportunities for social interaction, and in an area excellent for just walking. There is regular contact and interaction too with our Ranfurly Road residents, for meals, etc. and they both share fun at the Discos.

Our staff member April is employed two days a week solely to take residents out to do their weekly supermarket or personal shopping and attend appointments, etc. Some residents enjoy going to Church and there are weekly Sunday outings organised for anyone who is interested.

In conjunction with the Number 6 Hostel Residential Home, Linda M has been attending a baking programme at Manukau Tech; another resident, also named Linda R, is excited about receiving her 20 years long service award from Workforce. Chris M goes swimming weekly at Jellicoe Pool with Special Olympics and many of the residents enjoy weekly social outings with family and friends. Nine residents, from both homes go to the Waitakere Strike ten-pin bowls each Saturday. The final game this year is the North Island Regional Special Olympics competitions. Two CPA residents chose to go on holiday to Orewa this time while others chose a family holiday or other getaways.

On site there are also several of the resident’s pets including cats and caged birds. In fact, much to their delight, extra cats have adopted us and one of those has just had kittens, which fortunately have all found homes. Three units have cat doors fitted with another in the pipeline. Family and friends visit on a regular basis and residents enjoy a variety of social evenings and meals out with friends. Birthdays are celebrated with a small gift and a special dinner spent with families and friends.

All residents who require them now have their own phones connected and every resident has their own panic button connected directly to the office should a problem ever arise. We have experienced having to deal with a multitude of medical problems but all have been handled with excellent results. The residents are constantly being trained as to what is required to be done when the smoke alarm goes off, especially if it happens to be their own unit. The Fire Drill and current evacuation procedures are regularly reinforced. The staff spend time reminding residents to remain courteous to staff and to be considerate to their neighbours. Special regard and consideration should be given to closing doors and shutting windows quietly, and to avoid talking very loudly to other residents – especially early in the morning.

We are presently arranging staffing for the Christmas Holidays and have a barbecue planned for 8 December for family and friends.

ACTIVITY CENTRE NEWS

The Activity Centre staff held a very successful Garage Sale, which raised \$2,500. A big thank you to all who made this possible – our biggest ever! A 'Garage Sale' sign was organised to comply with the Council Public Notice Board requirements so this year we booked an advertising space on the notice board at the Manukau and Ranfurly Road intersection. Maybe that helped?

We have had three College of Education students, Awhina, Kelvin and Pierre on their term placements from 4 September to the end of term. Charlotte Cameron, a third year student nurse, was also here on a two week placement. Congratulations to our staff member Glynis Bieleski on her well-deserved achievement of gaining a College of Education 'Diploma' in Human Services.

During the recent Sydney 2000 Olympics, we staged our own Olympic Games, which was a day of achievement for all who participated. We lit the flame at the opening ceremony and medals were presented at the closing presentation ceremony. Congratulations to all the students.

Our EOY production 'Cinderella' is the present focus and promises to be a lot of fun. We find that at each performance some of the lines and phrases are spontaneously changed, which adds to the originality of the moment. The demand for tickets was high for the three consecutive nights with three hundred and ninety tickets sold – a total sell-out. We are also having matinees!

To offset expenses, we are selling raffle tickets and the donated major prize is two nights' accommodation for a couple at the Waiheke Island Onetangi resort 'Seventeen Pah Road'. This mini vacation generously includes the use of a four-wheel drive vehicle, with the Waiheke ferry fares paid, and even includes a bottle of champagne for the winners to enjoy.

We held a barbecue lunch to thank our retiring taxi driver Graham for his loyalty and service to the students over the past nine years.

Dear friends,
It's that time of year again when Ranfurly bombards you with various dates to put in your diaries for social events and some fund-raisers. You are warmly invited to all of the following:

On Friday August 25th in the Ranfurly Activity Centre, starting at 7.00pm.

The Not Quite So Dead Poets Society, take two.

Come along and enjoy a relaxed evening where you are most welcome to either participate or to simply attend and listen. If you wish to contribute to the evening, then bring with you a poem (or two) that you would like to share with a group of like minded people. Feel free to bring along a piece of prose or even a song where the lyrics mean something special to you. It can be your own creation or somebody else's piece of work that you like and want to share. The choices are yours!

The event is free, with a gold coin donation for your tea/coffee and muffin.

On Friday September 8th in the Ranfurly Hall, starting at 7.00pm.

BINGO NIGHT!

Tickets are \$5.00 to play 6 games. A simple bit of fun, with a cuppa and a muffin during the interval! We will also be holding a raffle on the night.

On Friday November 24th in the Ranfurly Hall, starting at 7.00pm.

Trivia Quiz Night.

Tickets will cost \$5.00 and we will also be running a raffle. Come along in a team of four or come along and make up a team with other folk that you meet with on the night itself.

On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, December the 13th, 14th and 15th in the Ranfurly Hall, starting at 7.00pm.

CINDERELLA.

Tickets are FREE, but they will be limited to approximately 120 for each performance ~ so be prepared to BOOK EARLY. We will be running three separate raffles (one each night) for which any donations will be gratefully received! It promises to be a great evening out.

We look forward to seeing you at our various events.

Residential Home News

Seventeen residents have taken advantage of the GIFT Orewa home and taken holidays there. Once again staff have surpassed themselves with planning a variety of interesting day trips including the glass bottom boat and carefully recording all the activities.

Some residents were fortunate to be experiencing their first overseas holiday, travelling with Margaret Whitta to Melbourne.

As you can imagine, the souvenir scrapbooks are full of photos and a diary are a treasure to keep as a reminder of the shared fun of travel.



RANFURLY CARE ACTIVITY
CENTRE

Our Holiday at Orewa Monday 16 October to 20 October 2000

Monday: On Monday 16 October at 10 30 am Shelley, Sacha, Anne, Jan, Laan, Lynette, Annette with Joy and Jenny set off for their five day holiday at Orewa Beach. Jenny had forgotten her crock-pot so a detour was made to Green Bay, and then they were off on the northwestern motorway via Henderson. It was a lovely drive up through Greenhithe, and everyone was in a happy mood.

We arrived at Orewa, and had some lunch and while Joy was getting the house into order, Jenny and Shelley went and did some grocery shopping. In the afternoon, we all went for a lovely walk along the beach – some ran ahead and some lagged behind! After the walk it was back to the Gift house for a lovely hot meal, showers and a pleasant evening watching the TV.

Tuesday: Joy and Jenny managed to get a lovely ‘cuppa’ and enjoy the quiet tranquillity of the early morning. (They had managed to get another of these moments during the night and watched the most beautiful scene of the moon over the water). Jenny then got a cold wet face cloth and ‘woke’ the rest of the ‘family’ up. What a noise with all the yelling and shrieking!

We had breakfast, did the necessary household chores (some people went to the beach) and then around 10 am we left for Goat Island. We went for a forty five-minute trip on board a glass-bottomed boat. What an experience! We saw fish, stingray, kina (sea eggs) and vegetation all along the seabed. We saw many caves and went to the entrance of a couple of them – much to the consternation of Lynette! The highlight of that trip was when a diver went under the bottom of the boat and looked up and waved to us all!

We had some lunch at Leigh, overlooking the water and then we went on to Matakana to look at the craft shop. We went on to Warkworth, and we all had a Giant Jelly Tip! Joy was taking lots of photos. We then went on to Waiwera where we stopped along the waterfront. Then we were on our way back to Orewa, where we had a rest and then set about preparing the evening meal. We watched ‘Judge Judy’ the News and ‘Shortland Street’. A great day had been had by all.

Wednesday: No cold washes this morning! Everyone was ready to leave for Whangarei at 9am. We had a good trip there and before looking around the Whangarei Basin we had morning tea. The shop that we most enjoyed pursuing was The Doll Shop. It was fantastic and we spent quite some time there. The various expressions on the dolls which were all quite different showed us the incredible talent of their makers. Each of us found a favourite doll.

Shortly after leaving the shop Anne felt ill, At Waipu Jenny took her to the Medical Centre. Jenny meanwhile gave the others their lunch sitting in the car park of the R.S.A. hall! After lunch it was straight back to Orewa. While Joy had fun playing games with the rest of the group, Jenny and Shelley took Anne back to Ranfurly and did a pile of washing! Jenny and Shelley arrived back at Orewa and it was McDonalds for tea. We were all famished!

Thursday: We were up at 8am the beach looked beautiful. Lynette was out there every possible moment that she could be. Everyone helped with the necessary housework, and then it was off to the Orewa Shops. We all had a ladies morning shopping!

After lunch we went to Gulf Harbour and visited Jenny’s friend Linda. Also went to the town centre at Gulf Harbour – it was very interesting, very calming just wandering about. Joy got some ‘photos of the ladies just sitting along a wall. Then it was back to Orewa for teas, where a nice Apricot Chicken was already cooking in the crock-pot – the smell was so inviting as walked into the house, and all the fresh air that we had that day had certainly increased our appetites! After tea and before Shortland Street we had a lovely long walk along the beach. Another great day!

Friday:

This was our packing up day and we all decided to make the most of Orewa Beach! However, our first bit of fun after breakfast was to decorate the lounge for a special birthday! It was Joy’s husband – Dick’s birthday that very day and Joy had got some streamers and balloons. It did not take long to transform the room and we derived great enjoyment out of being able to be part of his birthday. Joy had arranged for them to stay at Orewa for the weekend and Dick was coming up to Orewa later that afternoon.

After we had put up the decorations we had morning tea and then went for a long walk along the beach. All too soon it was time to do our packing, have lunch and then head home for Auckland. A most relaxing fun holiday was had by all!



Melbourne trip

On Wednesday 18th October 2000.
I went to Melbourne with Margaret Whitta with lots of people. The plane took off at 2.45 pm. It was a wonderful trip we went to see the pilots they were talking to us. I could not see out it was all white cloud in front like cotton wool.

We arrived at 4.55 pm their time. The coach was there to meet us. We went to our hotel I shared my room with Carresse

On Thursday 19th October

We went a sightseeing tour to help familiarise ourselves with Melbourne city. We went Flagstaff and Royal Botanic gardens Captain Cooks Cottage. We did travel across Westgate Bridge to Williams town for panoramic views of Port Phillip Bay and back to the city.

We were going to stop for ice cream. The shop has 76 flavours of ice cream but there was no time.

On Friday 20th October.

We went to Queen Victoria Market. They had shops of fish, meat, bread, etc. All the stalls were wonderful I could stay there for three days just to look around.

On Saturday 21st October

We went full day Dandenong to the Puffing Billy. I was very interested to see homes in long way out when the Puffing Billy went pass. The country went for miles. The Puffing Billy Australia oldest steam train.

After that we went to famous Healesville Wildlife Sanctuary. There was lots of different wild. We see platypus, search station lyrebirds, wombats, emus, koalas, Kangaroos, and many other species.

Sunday 22nd October
We took a tram to St. Kilda Art and Craft Market on tram it very hot because there was a lot of people on board. We went through the Market I brought a Carrington. After that we went to see lots of cakes in the windows than we had a ice cream.

Monday 23rd October.

Today we have another full day of sight seeing Ballarat travel the Cobbot route back in time to the 1850 and the famous Gold Rush Days some people were trying to find gold. It was raining very hard.

Tuesday 24th October.

This morning we went to visit Melbourne Aquarium. It has lots of different fish and lots of whales.

We had dinner overlooking the promenade and enroute back to our hotel we experienced the city lights by night we had lovely last night drive around the city.

On Wednesday 25th October
We had an early breakfast our cases were packed the night before. We had a wonderful holiday.



Now we know what happened to Jonah

Special Olympics recently held their 'North Island Games 2000' over three days, involving many different types of competitive sports.

Ranfury Care had representatives in the Indoor Bowls, swimming and skating events and most won ribbons and medals. Special Olympics letterhead has 'Everyone's a Winner'.

Our 'CONGRATULATIONS' to all of the winners!

Resident's Outings

One of our residents continues to go to church each Sunday with a friend, and four others enjoy walking to St George's church weekly. Four others continue to go to church and out with their families most Sundays. Mondays, nine participate in the Special Olympic indoor bowls and on Saturday's five friends go to ten-pin bowling at the Special Olympics Waitakere Super Bowl. Bruce and Anne were selected to play at an indoor bowls tournament at the Weymouth Cosmopolitan Club where they won ribbons and medals.

A couple go regularly to the Christian Fellowship outings and on the last occasion a BBQ was held. Bobbie goes to Avondale roller-skating once a week and this year has won a bronze and a silver medal. Most residents love to dress up and go to the 'Disco Nights' organised by either Special Olympics or Christian Ministries.

Some residents avidly watched the TV coverage of the Olympic Games. Douglas enjoyed an outing to Waiheke Island for the day with his sister. Several residents are taken shopping each week with either the staff or family. Gerard goes swimming with Special Olympics each week and had fun staying overnight for the North Harbour swimming tournament.

Community Outings

Our graphic weekend outing books describe in detail the 'Weekend Outings'. For example, Orewa with lunch at McDonalds; a drive to Waiuku, Rangiwheia Reserve; Western Springs with pizza for lunch, Auckland waterfront a walk; Movies, Maraetai Beach and the Formosa Golf Club; Lake Pupuke for a walk and to watch the ducks swans and geese busy with their nesting preparations. A ferry trip to Devonport for lunch or a visit to the Takapuna shopping centre; Mangatawhiri to see the castle; Kaiaua and through to Waiharu Regional Park and Kawakawa Bay: Piha and lunches on the beach; Arataki Visitor Information Centre in the middle of the beautiful Waitakere Ranges; Ardmore Airport to watch the 'fly past,' – commemorating the 'Battle of Britain' and the Ardmore Museum; Whangaparaoa Peninsular to feed the peacocks and peahens at Shakespeare Park; Hunua Falls;

Special Olympics

New Zealand

Special Olympics Global Athletes Congress

The first ever Global Athlete Congress saw 64 athletes representing 47 nations invited to meet in the Hague, Netherlands from May 21-23. The aim of the Congress is to give athletes the opportunity to comment on current Special Olympic practices, future directions, give athletes the opportunity to step into leadership roles within the organisation and to illustrate that athletes are capable of speaking for themselves and contributing to important decisions.

New Zealand selected two athletes Brent Crowther from Hutt Valley and Geoff Watson from Auckland. Both travelled to Wellington February this year to compete in the Special Olympics New Zealand National Conference. Geoff and Brent were excellent ambassadors for NZ and Geoff was one of 5 athletes who made the final round of voting for the role of chairman of the Athlete Congress.

The important issues raised by the Congress were; Introducing a Code of Conduct for Athletes and Coaches, getting more families involved and changing the current athlete selection process for world games. At the end of the Congress the athletes presented their recommendations to a summit meeting of Special Olympics and Government officials from around the world.

Geoff and Brent were also able to see a little of the sights of Amsterdam, and visit Disneyland and Universal Studios during the trip. They will both now help run athlete workshops here in New Zealand to ensure the athletes views are made known and listened to.



Movies 'The Kid' – Plenty of laughter! There was also a visit to see a craft exhibition at the Nathan Homestead, Manurewa and a day trip on a train to Ohakune for a resident.

Repairs and Maintenance

In regard to the CPA Repairs and Maintenance programme, the laundry has now been completed with an outside entry for residents access to the clothesline. The white security screen doors are fitted to all units to act as fly screens and help to aid cooling in the summer. The drain layers have completed connecting all the drainpipes properly and the boundary fence has been completed.

For the Ranfurly site, the PD Supervisor has organised more firewood deliveries. This was a welcome gift as the supply of firewood was running low. Thanks to our fiends The Royal Oak Trust, Cowperthwaites Ltd was contracted to re-tile and paint the Activity Centre roofs. That is now completed and looking excellent. Newmarket Rotary have kindly donated a new double wall oven for the home and said they can also help with landscaping at Cornwall Park, our next project.

General

At the end of August all staff completed the two yearly two-part Red Cross first aid course to update their certificate. Five staff members attended a C.C.S organised course by Michael Kendrick; 'Inclusion' and eight attended a College of Education lecture, 'Autism Intervention' by Professor Todd Risley.

The Ladies Auxiliary group has decided to resume bi-monthly get-togethers starting 9 August. They have extended an invitation to anyone who is interested in a social morning tea.

As this is the last newsletter for the year 2000, I would like to wish everyone a Festive Christmas and successful and happy 2001.

I hope you have plenty of time for family and friends at this special time of the year. Finally, I want to thank you all for your continued support as we remember the Millennium – the hopes, the fears and the dreams.

We will start 2001 with the belief that all our individual actions can make a difference.

Christmas blessings from Linda and Bunny



Tower tries to lure them in with spirit of optimism

Financial services group Tower Australia has launched a brand awareness campaign across the country.

Its chief operations executive, Mr Ken Boag, said the campaign was aimed at showing the group was more than a financial services group, offering instead a wider range of services.

"A major part of the campaign is to convey this diversity and to move away from the lingering perception in some areas, that we are simply a life insurance company," Mr Boag said.

"Tower's key consumers are people who are self-reliant and the campaign will run with the strapline: "Life's what you make it."

The commercial was developed by agency BAM SSB (now part of D'Arcy Advertising Group).



Giving financial services a spin ... there's more to life than worry.

"From this research, we knew that Tower's key audiences were looking for a new direction in financial services advertising," said Mr Andrew Sargant, of D'Arcy Advertising.

"Traditionally, financial services companies have played on people's fears about their financial futures. All the feedback we received indicated that consumers wanted a provider that focused on the potential for both quality of life and life satisfaction, through careful financial planning.

"The commercial appeals to these key markets - indepen-

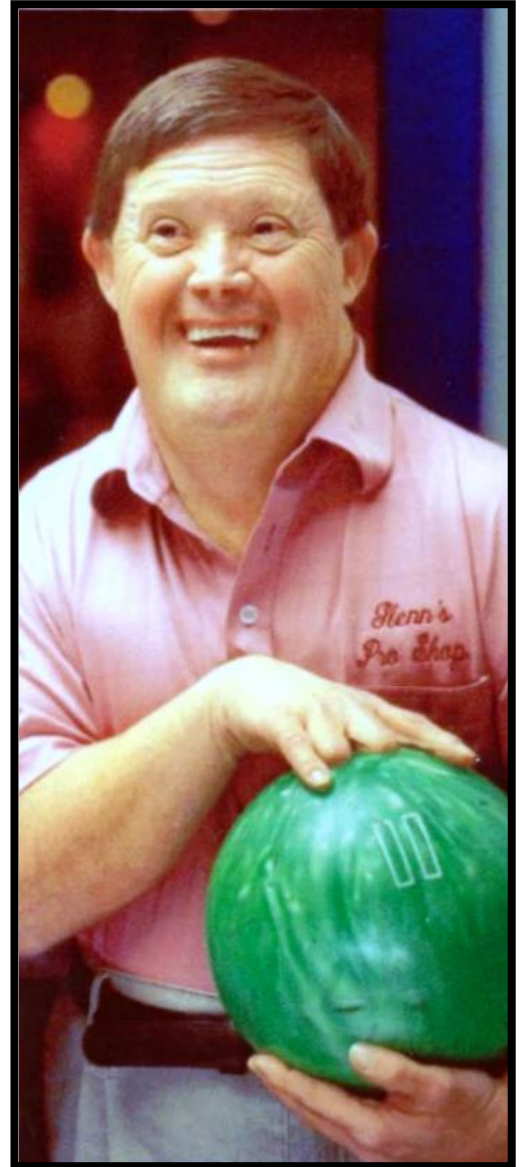
dent, self-reliant individuals and families who are confident about the future and in control of their destinies."

The Tower campaign debuted on Australian television screens on Sunday, July 22, and will be a familiar presence into the future.

The campaign comes at a time when more than 60 per cent of the population invests in the sharemarket directly or through superannuation funds.

Financial service groups must compete directly with the major banks, which are also expanding products from the traditional savings/cheque account business.

Provided by Murray Nash
14-8-01 - Australian Newspaper!



Angela has special time

ANGELA Bloomfield has been swept off her feet by two Special Olympians.

The Shortland Street star is the No 1 supporter of powerlifter Stephen Homfeld and swimmer Geoff Watson.

Aucklanders Stephen, 39, and Geoff, 40, are leading the Special Olympic appeal, which began yesterday.

"I will do everything I can to help raise people's awareness of the Special Olympics," Angela told Sunday News.

"It's the least I can do

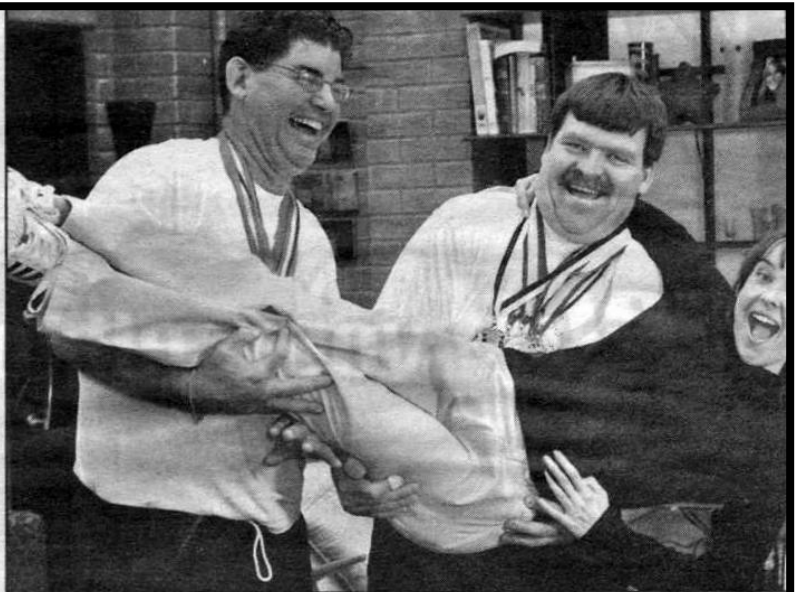
for these guys. They try so hard and are always putting in 100 percent."

Stephen and Geoff have been training every week for the national competition in November.

As part of the Special Olympics appeal, a fundraising gala dinner hosted by TV3 newsreader John Campbell will be held at Sky City in September.

The Special Olympics and supporters will be out collecting this week.

To make a donation phone 0800 282821.



CARRIED AWAY: Special Olympians Geoff (left) and Stephen give Angela a lift.

June 2001

NEWSLETTER

Ranfurly Care

Dear friends.

It seems a long time ago since the December 2000 newsletter and the 21st, which was the student's final day of the year at the Activity Centre. Again on this day, by popular demand, Santa arrived with a sack of goodies which was followed by the very special and moving Nativity play that has become an annual celebration. Most of the families were able to stay on to a barbecue lunch as an end of year get together and an opportunity to say 'Au Revoir' to Jenny Baker who sadly for us left for a change in her vocation.

Last December we were advised by the Ministry of Health MOH (formally the HFA) that the Needs assessment contract (NASC) has been awarded to four groups, Puukaki ki Te Aakitai, Health Pacific, NZCCS Auckland, and Assess ability Ltd., a Taranaki based NZCCS company. On 5 April, Jan and I attended the opening of their new building at Great South Road. In case you are unaware anyone requiring either permanent residential care or respite care has to first approach this service for their assessment and approval to meet the need.

We continue to host the Small Service Providers meetings that are purposely held a week prior to the MOH Provider meetings. At the last meeting a guest speaker from ACC was invited to discuss was there a way for us to obtain lower premiums as presently we are lumped in with Mental Health residential care and Odyssey House etc. The good news is that we were informed that the levy this coming year would be \$1.76 per \$100 instead of the present rate of \$2.40. Unfortunately the cost to Ranfurly has increased three fold since the Labour Government changed back to The ACC being a Government entity instead of business being able to negotiate directly with the private sector.

I have continued to attend the "Audit 2000" Project Control Group working meetings with the MOH Auckland Auditors appointed auditors, John Stacy and Alwyn Robertson. They are currently contracted to work on developing an Auditing Tool incorporating the new Ministry of Health Standards to be considered nationally. I volunteered Cornwall Park Ave., to have a trial audit 10 May 2001 so that the auditors could check if their new auditing tool will work. This was a discipline exercise that I set for myself as a check that all our systems are in place and functioning to meet the resident's requirements and the Ministry of Health contractual requirements.



St Patricks's Day celebrations

ANZAC DAY

On the bottom of this page is the Ranfurly ANZAC Service. Margaret Blyth was our guest speaker, as the daughter of New Zealand's oldest soldier, Lawrence Blyth. During World War 2 he was in a group of NZ soldiers who helped to liberate Les Quesnoy in France. On ANZAC day there was a TV One programme commemorating Lawrence's life and achievements. He died in 2001 aged 105.

The Royal Oak Trust generously agreed in April not only to replace our tired Mitsubishi mini-bus, but also offered to provide us with a smaller 8-seater Toyota Previa to enable us to pursue our aim of taking smaller groups into the community. The people who live or attend the Day Programme at Ranfurly are very proud and excited about the smart new vehicles. We now have great flexibility with transport as we still have the 10-seater Bongo van and the 8-seater Serena, which is very popular with the residents at Cornwall Park Avenue. We cannot thank the Royal Oak Trust enough for their invaluable help in providing the things we need to ensure a comfortable and enjoyable lifestyle for our residents.

For a period of time we have been working on reformatting and reviewing all the Ranfurly Policy documents. We have initiated several new policies for example; Risk Management, Sexual Abuse, Resident's Finances, and Death and many others have required further modification. We are still re-organising our policies by re-indexing into General and Staff categories before asking the Executive to record their approval of the final text so that we can forward a copy to all service users.

On 19 January 2001, I spent a day with the Activity Centre staff rescheduling and establishing a timetable for the New Year's activities. It has been full on since Monday, 22 January 2001, when the Activity Centre resumed. The meeting was held to cover some housekeeping areas, to finalise our programme for the next six months and also to put together a strategic plan setting our goals for 2001. We acknowledge that progress at Ranfurly is often measured in small degrees of achievement, though we are always experiencing notable successes. Our role is to provide the best service we can for our students with constant re-evaluation. The 2000 achievements were a credit to them all.

We welcomed Rachelle as a new staff member and Glynis has now become a full time staff member. Arron Groshinski left with much fanfare on Friday, 23 February for his big OE. Elaine Ma'ia'i started on Valentine's Day, 14 February. Wendy is now working three days a week for the Activity Centre and two days a week at CPA. We are fortunate to have a volunteer, Roshni Grander from the UK, working in the centre two afternoons a week and recently Mike Smith, who is a student at the Auckland College of Education, doing the year course "Teaching People with Disabilities" started working in the Activity Centre on a part time basis each Monday.

I am enclosing interesting profiles of the new staff members mentioned above.

Rachelle Tomlin has a Diploma of Performing Arts, Drama, and has just completed a Bachelor of Arts at University of Auckland. She has an interest in theatre, performing in this year's University of Auckland Outdoor Summer Shakespeare's performance of 'As You Like It'. She works with Paul in drama to develop cognitive skills, to create new ideas and increase confidence through performing to one another. Dance and movement groups work on individual fitness and co-ordination in a fun and creative environment. Music and Song is utilized to enhance confidence in individual performance and group co-operation in ensemble singing. When taking the computing group, the emphasis is on learning keyboard, mouse and word processing skills, whilst creating their own stories and letters, and copying words from stories.

Glynis Bielecki has completed her Diploma in Human Services at A.C.E. and is now a full time staff member, organising and taking groups for cooking and sewing, where the object is to produce baking, useful decorative articles with group members, and focusing on encouraging each other to work more independently. The swimming and relaxation classes help increase people's well being and flexibility. Community work is being trialled this year with people working in a voluntary capacity with St Vincent de Paul organising second hand clothing for sale. The Aviary group cares for pet-birds at the Centre, teaching people to care for the environment and animals, complementing the idea behind voluntary community work caring for other people. Music and Writing groups help to maintain skills in written language and verbal communication.

Wendy Simon - First came to the Activity Centre as an Auckland College of Education student on her work placement. Wendy has now gained her National Certificate in Human Services and a Diploma in Teaching People with Disabilities. As well as that, she has completed two short courses, Tutor training for Adult Literacy and Divisional Therapy Assistance. Wendy is working three days a week teaching Personal Grooming that includes care of the nails, skin and hair. She helps Joy with Indoor Bowls, teaching hand/eye co-ordination and having fun. The Pottery Group has been very creative. Students make small items to be joined together in a larger group project. At reading and writing time, the students are encouraged to read out loud, write stories, poems and letters. Cooking involves cooking simple but healthy meals which students are able to eat for their evening meal. There is also the Walking Group, which is all about getting to know our

neighbourhood, have exercise and fun, or go on the occasional bus trip around Auckland and with coffee stops.

Elaine Maia (has now replaced Arron Groshinski). In her short time at Ranfurly she has been able to utilise many of her skills. Her background has mainly been in the capacity as caregiver. She spent three years in the RNZAF as a medic – and has worked in various rest homes. She then worked with Spectrum Care as a Community Support Worker and a Reliever at their Activity Centre. More recently, she was a Teacher's Aide at Oaklyn Special School. – specialising in transition, horticulture and crafts.

Within her role at Ranfurly she has taken over Arron's classes and has also introduced two specialised classes. The first is Environment Nature Studies, which will involve going on many trips into the community to show the students how their community works and our role in the community. We have already completed a recycling session – collecting flora and fauna from the grounds of Ranfurly and transforming them into cards. We plan to start soon on another recycling project by recycling old newspapers to make briquettes for the fire. Another class is Herbs and Preserves, where students will grow selected herbs and once matured, pick them, dry them and then preserve them in decorative bottles and jars. Our long-term goal is to sell these bottles and jars to family and friends. Again this will give the students a great feeling of achievement, following through from growing the herbs to producing the finished product.

Elaine is also involved in the Gym, promoting physical well-being through indoor games and dancing. A Certificate of Achievement has been introduced for the gym students who show teamwork and complete their personal programmes - a great motivational tool. Another project involving all students was to collect handprints. The variety of prints has been turned into a delightful and colourful 'rainbow'. Everyone has enjoyed seeing their handprints on the wall. At lunchtime on Fridays, Elaine has started a lunch-time ladies only group. These are proving to be very popular and an opportunity to show them more personal grooming skills e.g. how to paint their nails. They also enjoy chatting and discussing the social activities of the weekend. The objective is to boost their self-esteem and self-confidence.

There was much celebration when Jo and Paul Kelly Moore had their first baby, a son they named Adam, born on Saturday 10 March. The family left at the end of April for a trip to the UK for a two-month holiday to catch up with friends and family and show off their gorgeous son who is sure to steal the limelight.

We had a lot of fun taking the students to see the "Spanish Dancing Horses", a free show put on for people with disabilities at the Epsom Show grounds. Most were able to walk to the venue.

We were recently donated a slate billiards table and accessories that is now a much valued asset to the students and staff alike.

Families and friends were happy to recently receive their copies of the Cinderella video, an edited one-hour version kindly completed by Mr Skiffington. We can arrange for more copies to be made at only \$10.00 each if anyone is interested. Of course I am not biased but I did enjoy our production more than the English pantomime shown on TV on New Year's Eve.

In regard to Supported Employment, in the early part of 2001 we have had one new placement in a fully paid work position at a local Shell Service Station. It started as an 8 hours per week position but has already increased to 16 hours per week. It is hoped that more hours will become available soon. In March, we secured two placements in the St. Vincent de Paul Opportunity Shop in Mangere as well as one at Youthline. Paul is currently negotiating two more placements at Youthline as well as a car-cleaning contract to commence later in the year.

Residential Home News

Chaunia, our residential weekend outing staff member, resigned at the end of last year to live in Riverton, South Otago. We continue to keep in touch by sending her various aspects of life style plan work. Chaunia makes such an excellent job of the graphics depicting a day in the life of our resident or student, their likes and dislikes, important people etc.

The customer satisfaction forms have been sent to all service users of the two Residential Homes, the Activity Centre and to Short Stay families along with the notice of the Work and Income benefit changes for Invalid Benefits, the Disability Allowance and pocket money for those who live in care. It is a big help having Chris working part time in the office. She has compiled an annual schedule to arrange for the 52-lifestyle plan reviews. Once this is arranged with the appropriate

family/caregiver, and in some instances two relevant key people, Chris attends all meetings in the role of a secretary. She is kept very busy as, with our present number of residents and students, we need to complete at least one life style plan meeting a week. She is now also responsible for organising the staff roster if the designated staff member is unable to work. This is a wonderful help.

We were very pleased that Jenny Baker recently took five residents on a one week holiday to a spot 40 minutes from Wellington, staying at the El Rancho, Waikanae Beach for six nights and then one night in Rotorua. The diary and photos illustrate the fun they shared.

This ANZAC day six residents went to the Cenotaph memorial service and we also held a very moving service in the Activity Centre.

Repairs and Maintenance

We have re-carpeted the gym floor in the Activity Centre, which was well past its use-by date. Don McBeath is proving to be a valuable asset, completing repairs and maintenance jobs at both sites, and making an excellent job of all sorts of tasks. The painters have recently completed painting the inner courtyard at Ranfurly Road. Interior corridors in the Home and the walls of the Activity Centre Hall have all had a much-needed spruce up. We also had the exterior of the building cleaned by Kemsol, which meant that we could then re-evaluate what areas required further maintenance or painting.

We have appreciated the work the PD teams have been doing at both centres. The garden has been worked on at both centres and the CPA fence painted.

Staff Training

Penny Hiatt from the Foundation for the Blind gave a lecture for staff entitled “When you Meet a Blind Person”, complete with simulation of blindness and role-playing. Clive attended the College of Education staff-training lecture by Dr Rannveig Traustadottir, Associate Professor, University of Poland. This was about “Gender and Disability” within family life and work possibilities, etc. Bob and I attended another IMS payroll training course in May.

As we are changing the method of administering medication, Liz Bosley of Douglas Pharmaceuticals spoke to all staff with regard to their system of Safe Practice of the Administration of Medication. The staff training session on 26 March covered details of the new system, including the safe procedures to follow.

Jan Mitchell provided training on the role of Key Persons at the recent CPA staff meeting. Jan is still very actively involved in SAMS, (Standard and Monitoring Services), who hold the auditing contract for the rest of New Zealand.

On the 30 April, all staff attended an interesting talk on Asian Culture taken by an Activity Centre student’s parent, Grace Lam.

On 25 May, seven staff members attended training facilitated by NZCCS Services on How to Develop An Ethical Approach To The Delivery of Human Services with Peter James. The content was on how human services are affected by unconscious ethics, how the beginning of ethical conduct is thinking for ourselves, and what it means for the development of quality services.

We are discussing with the Auckland College of Education further staff training on Managing Challenging Behaviour. We have been fortunate that our colleague Diana Wilcox from Ashley Cottage has organised two sessions, talking and discussing with all staff the issue of sexual abuse.

General News

Professor Colin Mantel phoned, on the recommendation of Professor Bonham, to seek our input for an obituary for Dr Florence Fraser in a medical publication. The Professor has since supplied us with a copy of the obituary, acknowledging her work and her value to the medical profession.

We were all very sorry to hear that Joan Lake died suddenly on 20 March and take this opportunity to extend to her family and the Society she was so active in, our sincere condolences. What a wonderful lady!

Last year Anna Clarkson, an artist, took a specialist class each Friday producing excellent group and individual results. She left in February this year to pursue her career.

We have maintained our connections with Arts Access Aotearoa and now many of our students attend Panacea Art on a weekly basis. We recently attended their opening night and auction where we were very proud of our students' work. Congratulations to Jeanette Baalbergen's achievement in creating this valuable asset to all disabled people, the Epsom Panacea Arts Studio.

Thanks to Paul for donating a lot of time to Ranfurly's social evenings and fundraisers. The second "Dead Poets" evening, the annual quiz and Bingo Night were very well attended. We banked \$210 from the last Quiz Evening to offset some of our drama production expenses. Another very successful Bingo Night raised over \$100 to be donated to Suffundo, our sponsored World Vision child.

In May a friend of Ranfurly called to audition six of our Down people for a Tower Insurance advertisement to be made exclusively for the Australian market. Two of our Down residents have been chosen to take part as members of a group of five who will be shown enjoying a game at ten-pin bowling. Congratulations to them both.

The annual Garage Sale is now planned for September first. Start thinking Spring Clean and Ranfurly would just love to receive your unwanted goods for this annual sale.

Clive is busy organising the mid-year Christmas Dinner get-together and would love to hear from you with some confirmations of numbers planning to come. As a reminder to you all, it is to be held on Saturday, 7 July at 7.00pm. The cost is only \$ 5.00 a head to cover extra expenses and bring a plate for a shared Christmas style dinner. He hopes we will get into the festive mood by wearing a festive outfit such as a splash of red, etc. and is very excited that he has received a letter from Santa letting us know he is able to pop in that evening to see us. The suggested \$2.00 gifts will all be slipped into the sack as gifts to be shared by all. (There is raft of innovative ideas at the \$2.00 shops.)

In the next newsletter we will be celebrating our tenth anniversary. Ten years ago we spent six months of concentrated effort forming the Society, drawing up a Constitution and gathering the deposit enabling us to purchase the building and open doors for business on February first 1992.

During the weekend I watched a video that staff member Rachelle has compiled on the Activity Centre Daily Programmes, as one of her 2001 strategic plan goals. It was a magical experience that bought a lump to my throat and a tear to the eye. I felt both very humbled and yet bursting with pride. Some of us had the vision 10 years ago that we could achieve what has now been captured on this video. Our people have taught us all so much and I feel I am very privileged to be the manager working alongside a dedicated team of staff, families and executive members who have all made the dream a reality. As a second "Mum" to this large extended family I am very proud of the enormous progress and personal growth so many people have made in their time with us.

On that reflective note I will say "au revoir" and God bless to you all in this the Chinese Year of the Snake.

Thank you to all those who have supported us by your thoughts, words, deeds or donations.

LINDA





15/2
Margaret
Wilkinson
Home Visit



The Disability Strategy

The Strategy was launched on 30 April 2001.

The aim of the New Zealand Disability Strategy entitled "*Making a World of Difference Whakanui Oranga*" is to facilitate the removal of barriers which prevent disabled from participating fully in society.

The vision of the Strategy is a fully inclusive society. The vision of a society that highly values the lives of people with disability and continually enhances their full participation.

The Strategy talks about barriers and a clear theme throughout the document is *attitude*. A quote within the document 'More often than not, barriers are made out of peoples' ignorance towards something different' is poignant.

As Helen Clark said in her opening address: "Societies are built in ways which assume we can all move quickly from one side of the road to the other, that we can all see signs, read directions, hear announcements, reach buttons, climb stairs, open heavy doors, interpret complex information, and have stable moods and perceptions."

"But for the one in five New Zealanders with a long-term impairment, that is not

necessarily the case. Many are unable to reach their full potential or participate fully in our communities because of the barriers they face doing everyday things."

"These barriers are socially constructed", Helen Clark said "and they can be removed. That, in a nutshell, is the aim of the New Zealand Disability Strategy".

The Strategy is initially, primarily focussed on what government can do. Government departments will be required to prepare annual work plans outlining how they intend implementing the New Zealand Disability Strategy. Eleven key departments will develop work plans for 2001/2002. For 2002/2003 all government departments will develop annual work plans.

The fifteen objectives that have been developed for the New Zealand Disability Strategy are:

- Encourage and educate for a non-disabling society
- Ensure rights for disabled people
- Provide the best education for disabled people
- Provide opportunities in employment and economic development for disabled people

- Foster leadership by disabled people
- Foster an aware and responsive public service
- Create long-term support systems centred on the individual
- Support quality living in the community for disabled people
- Support lifestyle choices, recreation and culture for disabled people
- Collect and use relevant information about disabled people and disability issues
- Promote participation of disabled Maori
- Promote participation of disabled Pacific peoples
- Enable disabled children and youth to lead full and active lives
- Promote participation of disabled women in order to improve their quality of life
- Value families, whanau and people providing ongoing support.

If you would like to hear more about the Strategy and explore the *where to from here*, join the MOH and DPA at the next forum.

Cinderella by Laan Chau

Last year Paul helped us practise our end of year performance of Cinderella. A lot of people came to see our show. We performed three nights at Ranfurly hall to large audiences. Jenny worked so hard making the curtains and costumes for all of us in the play. Everybody was at the Furlyran Ball including Prince Charming, and the King and Queen. The first item at the Ball was the dancing troupe led by Ann and Arron. They were all wearing their beautiful costumes. After the dance finished, Arron called Caresse Te Kumara to sing a solo of Edelweiss. Then Lynette the Dancing Queen danced for the audience and everybody joined in. Prince Charming and Cinderella danced together, it was a very happy ending. We all had a lot of fun.

Ranfurlly Care Society presents,
our Christmas 2000
drama production of:

★ ★ ★
CINDERELLA.



CHRIS REALLY
ENJOYED BEING
A MOUSE IN
THE CHRISTMAS
PANTOMIME,
DECEMBER 2000.

(v)

Mouse #1	Jo
Mouse #2	Gerard
Mouse #3	Chris Martin





Reflections on Cinderella by Paul Kelly - Moore

Having enjoyed the mini-play of *A Christmas Carol* in December '99, the drama group set their sights on something bigger and brighter last year. I started writing a Ranfurly version of *Cinderella* back in January of 2000. The original plan was to create about half an hour's entertainment and perform it in front of 200 people come the end of the year. To perform *Cinderella*, as pantomime seemed a good idea as it would contrast completely with all the previous Ranfurly drama productions. By February rehearsals had started and Jenny commenced her designing the many wonderful costumes. Each week seemed to produce its own special moment worth incorporating into the finished production. As it is no two rehearsals, or performances, were ever the same each one was a pure original! Jo tolerated my enthusiasm as every time I had a new idea I would act it out (in a frill) in our lounge attempting to play all the different parts simultaneously! Songs were added, dances were added even a custard pie in the face was added! Eventually *Cinderella* took shape as a full one and a half hours pantomime production. It was by far the biggest writing challenge that I have undertaken and at times I even began to believe that I really was a guy named Buttons! As we entered December we had stage lights booked, a sound system in place, make up artists on hand and raised seating to accommodate the large demand for tickets. In fact the interest was so great that we had to add a couple of matinee performances in an attempt to satisfy everybody. The three evening performances were all played in front of audiences of over 140 each night. It is difficult to accurately describe the outcome and to give it justice, but I would certainly say that it was a huge success. It would be unfair to pick out any one particular individual to praise as everyone involved played their part to the full. Our very special Ranfurly people learnt lines, stage directions, songs, dances and how to ad-lib! The response from each audience was very much one of pleasure, enjoyment and an overwhelming recognition at our united achievement. It was a wonderfully fulfilling experience everyone who contributed, whether on stage, back stage or simply enjoying it in the audience.



A VISIT TO MANUKAU CITY PAK'N'SAVE BAKERY





Paul's 40th

to celebrate my life's beginning - to coin a phrase - I had a big birthday bash at the Ranfurly Hall.

There was a theme to the evening and I asked my guests to come dressed as something beginning with the letter 'P'. Over 80 people turned up in costumes that varied from the sublime to the ridiculous. We had pirates, pussy cats and a poodle! There was a Princess, Presley, a Pakistani and Porthous (one of the four Musketeers). There were some playing cards, personalised plates, a puppet and Pippy Longstockings! There was even a pod of...

To All Our Friends December 2001



*The Ranfurly Care Executive, Management, Staff, Residents
and Students would like to wish you all*

*A Very Merry Christmas and
A Happy New Year for 2002.*

Enjoy Your Holiday Break!

NEWSLETTER December 2001

Dear Friends,

Once again it is that reflective time of year when one enjoys reminiscing on all the wonderful Ranfurly happenings. On the other hand, we have all been stunned in 2001 by the International tragedy on September the 11th and then Sir Peter Blake's tragic murder. Let us hope that now the true message of "The Season of Joy and Goodwill" is here. For us all this was very evident at the Friday night Activity Centre end of year 'bit of a do'. The staff hosted a wonderful evening namely Celebrate the World that truly demonstrated the merging of many cultures, the sharing of traditional food, entertainment and social interaction.

At this time of the year, it is a rush to get a newsletter out, yet it is also an ideal opportunity to produce a summary of events and take the opportunity to wish you all the "Compliments of the Season."

This year's AGM and Special meeting were held during the last week in September. The Companies Office (now known as The Ministry of Economic Developments) has finally forwarded the confirmation of the adoption and alteration to the rules.

We plan to put together proposals for our 10 year celebrations in 2002. We first opened for business in February 1992. Is it really possible that this is our tenth Christmas spent together? There has been such a lot of water flowing under our bridge!

I attended a forum on 22 June facilitated by the Hon. Ruth Dyson and a panel of speakers, on the subject of the Delivery of the NZ Disability Strategy, Making It Happen! I passed on plenty of information in the annual report so I thought I would enclose the current Auckland Disability Network newsletter (we are inaugural members) to bring you up to date.

This year we have updated and re-evaluated our OSH system. Mannheim Group NZ Ltd came and identified Hazards - re OSH compliance - and also updated our manual, which outlined the requirements specifically applicable to Ranfurly Care and its safe operation and function. If some of you are wondering where your accounts are I will justify their absence by saying that the past two months have been 'full on' upgrading our accounting system. There were many meetings and we finally decided to convert to Attaché Catapult as it was working well for both Northbridge and Aged Concern, who had previously installed this software with excellent results. We also decided at this point in time to install Fastnet Office (electronic banking). A letter will be accompanying the *rather* late October and November accounts! It is proving to be a very big task - setting up this far more complicated and sophisticated system.

We, like all of you, have experienced a lot of fun and games or should I say frustrations over the introduction of the new Auckland City Council wheelie bins. We were entitled to one bin only! Purchasing four bins from Wastecare finally resolved our rubbish problem.

Leigh Marshall, our architect has found a solution to the lack of the resident's protection from the elements at CPA. He has designed a new verandah with glass protection extending back to replace the existing overhang. At ground level it is planned to have a paved walkway with planters and a grassed area.



Residential Homes

We have had a year of excellent staff training/team building and are very pleased with the results and the staff enthusiasm and participation. There was a Michael Kendrick course on 5 July.

John Hibbs held two workshops on Stress Management in the Workplace. Ashley Cottage provided staff training for a new staff member and the same staff member also attended the two-day Red Cross Comprehensive First Aid course. John Hibbs took part II of the Stress Management course. Then in August, all staff attended a John Hibbs workshop on Sexuality/Conflict for students and residents. Joslin Enterprises kindly invited us for staff training on Dual Diagnosis on 8 August. That month a new staff member attended the two-day fully comprehensive first aid course. Then finally on 3 December there was a follow up training session by Diane Wilcox on Who Cares for the Carer and an update on staff appraisals, etc.

Chris and I attended the two-day Work and Income seminar Pathway to Inclusion. This provided an excellent networking opportunity for us with the other service providers, and a chance to feed back mutual concerns to Work and Income. It was confirmed that the DPEP Act will be repealed in 2002, with vocational changes phased in over five years to give providers and consumers time to adjust to the new environment. Ms. Dyson has stated "When the Act is repealed, people with disabilities in an employment relationship will have the same rights and entitlements as everyone else. Those people whose productivity is not sufficient to earn the minimum wage will be able to apply for an 'under-rate workers' permit' as full-time paid work is not practical or desirable for everyone. This involvement may occur in many ways, including through voluntary work".

Most of one full day was lost when we were one of the 'lucky' facilities that was chosen to have ten residents interviewed by Department Statistics NZ. Ten residents were chosen from the supplied resident list to complete the Disability Survey 2001 – Residential Care. As most participants chosen were non-verbal it was a rather lengthy process.

The newly designed Complaint / Compliment brochure has been sent to all families who use our services. Please contact us if you have not received a copy or the newly distributed Policy manuals. A big thank you to the Justice Department for providing help from the PD workers to help us complete many projects over the year including, the replanting programme for CPA as well as maintaining the Ranfurly Road property.

Staff News

We are very fortunate to have employed Shirley Lewis for weekend outings (and other shifts), Inese Vitola who is working at CPA, and Mike Smith in the Activity Centre. Congratulations to Michael Smith who on the 13 December was awarded the Auckland College of Education Diploma in Human Services. Teresa Derrick is currently on maternity leave until 1 May 2001.

The last parents meetings for this year for Ranfurly Residents was held on 4 December. Cornwall Park combined theirs with a Barbecue and a general get together on Friday 4 December.

Our thanks to all staff for the lovely evening.

The residents loved their recent trip to the annual Santa Parade. All the years large variety of outings are recorded in the Weekend Outing Books, which are an excellent source of record for families and the residents to peruse. To give you an idea of some of the outings we have had over the year we have been to IMAX at the special rate of \$6.50, a play, Whistle Down the Wind at the Dolphin theatre, the Eilerslie Flower Show and the play Big River at the Aotea Centre.

We were well represented by our athletes at the National Special Olympic Games. A staff photographer and many supporters went to the Opening and Closing Ceremonies and our residents and students came home with heaps of medals and ribbons. As a memento to their success story, we have ordered a copy of the video recording as a gift to all the participants.

Five fortunate residents went on the Margaret Whitta tour to Fiji on 21 June and Jenny Baker took a resident on a holiday to Rotorua. This year all residents have had a holiday and enjoyed happy times and memories at either Omapere or at Angela Harwood's holiday home in Stanmore Bay. Recently there have been four groups visiting each locality twice.

All staff enjoyed a mid-year Staff luncheon at McHugh's Cheltenham in July. It served three

purposes, as a debriefing from the Stress Management training, as a team building exercise, and a further chance to farewell Rachele Tomlin, a valued member of staff, who sadly for us has gone to work in Japan as a teacher. The staff Christmas Luncheon has been organised for 18 December.

Activity Centre

Thanks to the Activity Centre the mid-year Christmas dinner was a very successful evening for all those who were able to attend. Paul organised a fun evening *Poets Society*. Part of the programme was a 'Humpty Dumpty Challenge' to all participants, which produced some very clever poetry! On the 25th June all students spent the day at the Miranda Hot Springs - courtesy of Mrs. Duncan who had donated funds towards an outing.

Paul has returned from the two month UK holiday and is now working only three days a week enjoying spending the other two looking after his delightful young son Adam.

Students are enjoying work experience at the SPCA, Youth line, Elizabeth Knox, Cornwall Park Ave Hospital, and St Vincent' d' Paul. One of our students Brett Boreham and a staff member Elaine featured in the recent SPCA booklet on Volunteer Support. In fact we have received excellent individual reports and certificates from the SPCA, in recognition of our volunteer's weekly work. They were thanked at their Christmas luncheon last weekend.

We all appreciated the short time that Angie Panteli, a trained reflexology therapist spent with us. She worked as a weekly volunteer utilising her one-on-one gentle skills with our students. In August this year she returned to the UK following her 6-month stay in NZ.

At our January strategic plan I expressed a desire to have a video made capturing the students' participation in the daily Activity Centre programmes. Rachele decided that she would accept the challenge and made it her personal goal for the year. I am sure that all of you that have received a copy would agree with me that it is brilliant and a very deserving tribute to Rachel's work at Ranfurly. We distributed copies to all our families at the parent's meetings, and to all members who attended the AGM. If however you would like a copy please do contact me.

We held a very successful garage sale in September – raising \$3000.00. We were able (at long last) to implement one of the goals that we had set in our original strategic plan. That goal was to move into the twenty-first century with regard to our computer equipment for the Activity Centre Students. In addition to the above, we have utilised the parts from our seven existing PC's and created four new functional PC's. Each of the new computers will now be able to effectively manage word processing and educational software as well as the handling of the usual basic software.

These changes mean Internet Access, a Scanner and Digital Camera will now allow Ranfurly to establish its own Website and Network allows printing from all PC's and opens up the possibility of group training and tutorials.

The Activity Centre will close on 20 December with a Nativity play, Santa's visit and a BBQ – to which you are all welcome. On December 21 we will have an Activity Centre clean-up day and will reopen on Monday 21 January 2002.

General

Recently we sent flowers to Angela D'Audney as we were all saddened by her illness. She was a real friend to Ranfurly in the early days with radio interviews with IHC when we were fighting to buy the property.

We were very upset when our Activity Centre staff member Michael Choy was tragically murdered on 13 September 2001. Paul held a commemoration service at the Activity Centre for students and staff in the week following Michael's death. Some of the students had worked closely with Michael, and his departure was so sudden. It was felt that they would better come to terms with his sad loss if people were allowed to express themselves in grief. There were several meetings held with family members, all interested in visiting the centre where he had worked.

We are holding weekly Yoga classes involving gentle stretching exercise for both staff and residents - each Wednesday afternoon. The commencement of these classes corresponded neatly

with the Herald articles on the concept of 'Healthy Goals Deliver Performance' in the Herald business section.

On that note I will say au-revoir and once again thank you for all those who have supported us by your thoughts, words, deeds or by financial assistance and generosity over the past year.

God Bless you all, LINDA



SERVING 1 IN 5

Issue 9 - December 2001

Minister of Disability Issues says Disability Strategy is a powerful tool for change.

The New Zealand Disability Strategy is less than eight months old but is already proving a powerful tool for change. People tell me that the document has given formal recognition to the things they have been

saying for years. It validates their concerns, supports their activities and gives them a clear direction to work towards an inclusive society.

Around the country, the growing confidence of the disability sector is translating into stronger relationships with local authorities and government departments. I want to thank the Auckland Disability Providers Network for its role in initiatives such as the mayoral forum, *Building an Inclusive Auckland*; efforts to develop a blueprint for accessible transport in Auckland and a regional action plan to implement the disability strategy; the formal partnership established between DPA Auckland and the Ministry of Health; and the appointment of the first local government disability advisor in New Zealand.

In Palmerston North, DPA has developed a memorandum of understanding with the city council to adopt and apply the disability strategy. The Wanganui Disability Resource Centre and Good Health Wanganui organised a community expo to promote services, equipment and support for people with disabilities. Its theme, in line with the disability strategy, was *Changing Attitudes Costs Nothing*.

DPA recently organised a national series of workshops on consumer rights, with the support of the Health and Disability Commissioner's office. New Zealand CCS has also run workshops around the country on disability and conflict resolution, led by Mark Graham, founder of the UK Disability Conciliation Service.

These are just a few examples of the strategy in action. I want to be able to celebrate all our achievements. That's why I've asked the Disability Issues Directorate to set up a notice board on the NZDS website (www.nzds.govt.nz), where we can list our successes and learn from each other's experience. It will be up and running soon. The government is leading the implementation of the strategy. In the next few weeks, I will table my first report in Parliament on progress made by the 11 government departments who drew up action plans this year. Many have concentrated on things like staff training, employment practices and accessible information.

They are also changing the way they develop policies and services, so that genuine partnership and consideration of disability issues occurs at the beginning, rather than as an afterthought or when things go wrong, as has happened too often in the past. This sort of leadership is critical in removing the biggest barrier to participation – people's attitudes.

As Minister for Disability Issues, I am excited by the progress we have made since the Disability Strategy was launched in April. I wish you all a very happy Christmas and New Year, and I look forward to working with you again in 2002, as we continue our efforts to create a society which values all its citizens and encourages their full participation. Hon Ruth Dyson

From the Minister for Disability Issues

Out of home support for children with disabilities Subject to sufficient support and resources, care giving within a family situation can provide the best outcomes for society, families and individuals and has been shown to lead to strengthened families, increased tolerance and understanding of diversity. With the closing of institutions for children and as a result of the advances in medicine over recent years there are an increasing number of children in New Zealand living at home who have disabilities and high medical needs. The care giving for these children is done by mothers and

fathers and other family members, who may be working outside the home, as well as caring for other siblings. It is quite understandable that at times family resources become stretched in trying to meet all the needs within the family.

Three of the things that families report as causing the most stress for a caregiver are; regular lack of sleep caused by care giving demands, high support needs caused by medical issues and behaviour which requires intense support and supervision. If these are present for an extended period of time families report feeling distressed, desperate and unable to cope in more than survival mode. The challenge of keeping physically and emotionally strong enough to sustain the level of care giving required should not be underestimated.

Very often families have access to in home support to assist at key times of the day. This allows the family to continue with regular activities in their own environment. The down side of this type of support is that a stranger is introduced into the home environment. Many strangers can be transient in the lives of families. They are often inexperienced, so that families find that they have to repeatedly train new support workers. Families report that the lack of suitable support is an ongoing concern for many of them. And last but certainly not least; having strangers in the home does impact upon family privacy. This arrangement can, for many add another stress to their family life.

Objective 15 of the New Zealand Disability Strategy recognizes the value of families, whanau and people providing ongoing support. The strategy does not suggest that there is one model of support for families but rather promotes the encouragement of debate about responsibility for caring, payment for caring and how to further recognize and value the caring role. The strategy requires us as a nation to improve the support and choices for those who support disabled people. Families with children with disabilities and high medical needs would appreciate more choice and more recognition of the urgency of providing for the health and safety of their children. When a child's very survival is at stake, families must focus on that as their priority.

In supporting children with high support needs to live full lives in the community let us not forget to listen to the parents and family members who enable this to happen by putting in the often long hours of labour and love. In their submission to the Disability Strategy they identified their priorities as

- Health for our children and ourselves
- Safety for our children and ourselves
- A voice for children and ourselves

Disability support services planning and funding split. Recently Government made a decision to split the planning and funding functions of disability support services into two groups?

People aged 65 and older and younger people with disabilities. This will enable a more focused and flexible planning approach. People who are older generally experience disabilities due to the increasing complexity of their health needs. It is appropriate that their health and disability support needs are planned and funded together. Younger people with disabilities are more likely to have the same health needs as the rest of the population, but have a greater need for strong linkages across a variety of sectors, such as housing, education, transport and vocational support.

There is a lot of transition work to be done to implement the split.

The Disability Issues team will be:

- looking at definitions and boundaries to design principles that will guide what services and funds fit into each group in the split.
- doing a national stock take of all disability support service contracts (there are over 4,500 contracts).
- splitting the funding according to the principles and criteria developed in the definitions work
- developing an information and data pack to assist those who will fund disability support services in the future
- -investigating funding options for the younger people with disabilities group (this will be based on New Zealand Disability Strategy work)
- considering the team's capability and the human resource impacts and future change that might have to be made. There will be no changes to planning or funding in the short term.

The Disability Issues team will continue to manage contracts, planning and funding as they do now. You will be kept informed of progress as work advances.

Update from Judith Lunny ADPN secretary

We thank all those agencies who have again this year generously supported the Network. We rely on your support for the funds to allow us to continue with the work we do. We assure you that we are continually researching and looking for other ways to obtain funds to lighten the burden on those who do support us and ask those who have as yet to make a contribution this year to seriously consider doing so in the next financial year. Judith is happy to discuss what financial support you can afford with you at any time. To continue the work we are doing, we need money sadly - \$21,500.00 per year.

Grateful thanks to the NZ Lotteries Commission for monies that have increased the bank balance.

Co-coordinator's Corner: A Summary of Strategy work accomplished in 2001.

As usual I come to you with actions of the Network since the last Newsletter and although the Network has worked very hard at refining its vision and objectives, which has resulted in a Strategic Plan and work plan for 2002, the year has been dominated by actions related to the New Zealand Disability Strategy. In our next newsletter we will have a copy of our Strategic Plan for 2002 but this time I am giving you a summary of the Strategy work accomplished this year.

- The action relating to the Strategy began in June with a Forum entitled The New Zealand Disability Strategy What is? What do we do with it? This forum was directed at providers in agencies across the wider Auckland region and our members from Whangarei joined the 120 providers who attended. The Hon. Ruth Dyson chaired it, and the speakers comprised Dr. P O'Brien, Lorna Sullivan, Geraldine Woods, M, Tibble and Philip Paxton.
- The Network then established a small sub-committee that wrote a Transport Strategy for the Auckland Region. At present the group is working on ways to involve the Auckland Regional Transport Network so they make this transport document a standard part of their Strategy.
- As the Network has a policy of co-operation and support with other relevant organizations the co-ordinator Judith Lunny was part of the team that staged the Auckland City Council strategy forum.
- In keeping with this attitude the Providers, instead of having an October forum, worked with the MOH to stage the MOH forum on the Implementation of the NZDS for the Auckland region to an audience of at least 160 people.
- After all this talk the Network have now consulted its members on priorities and written an Action Plan for 2002 focusing strongly on the NZDS and incorporating most of the objectives.
- At present a workshop for December 12th is planned to consult on the MOH implementation plan and provide Dr. Rod Watts with the feedback he desires.
- A column on strategy activities is to be a regular item of this thrice-yearly newsletter. Now it all has to just work.

I surprised myself when I wrote this with what has been achieved this year. To Financial Members please try to come, or send a representative to the Workshop on the December 12th at the Disability Resource Centre from 9.45am to Noon.

With this newsletter comes the Season's Greetings and hopefully you will all have a wonderful Christmas break full of peace and rest and be revitalized for the New Year. Judith Lunny



**Omapere Tourist Hotel & Motel, South Hokianga
15th to 19th October 2001**

On Monday 15th October 2001 at 8.30am a group of ladies set out for a holiday.

There were ten of us in the group - Pam, Andrea, Sacha, Shelly, Vicki, Jan, Laan, Annette, Joy and Jenny. We were a very happy group of people, and right from the word go, and with Joy's encouragement there was a lot of laughter and talking.

We had made very good progress on our journey, so we stopped briefly at Orewa to check out the Gift House – just to see if there had been any changes made to it – there. Only an empty section.

Once we had got back on the road, we turned off from the main highway and stopped for morning tea and of course a comfort stop at Maungaturoto.

We came across a number of old churches during our five days away, and the first one we spotted was very evidently not being used as a church. It was uncared for, and only Joy and Jenny braved navigating the cowpats to have a look through the windows of the church. It had three inhabitants – minah birds, and they got such a fright to see two human faces peering through the windows at them. The cows and their calves in surrounding paddocks were very interested in us and so we *had* to have a chat to them. Te Kopuru, the Kumara farming.

At Dargaville we did the grocery shopping, and then we were on our way to Omapere, for lunch. But... Jenny had not checked the petrol gauge and when she did notice it – horrors! It was almost to the empty mark! We travelled on a little – hoping to find a petrol station, but instead we found some farmers, just standing on the roadside - talking. They advised us to turn back and later (about 13 kilometres later) we were able to get the tank filled at a Petrol Station. What a relief! On arriving at Omapere we had a most welcome shared lunch. The trusty old crock-pot had once again come on holiday with us and devilled sausages were put on for the evening meal. We then settled into our motels properly, and then it was time to have our first walk along the beach. What a beautiful beach! It was then back for tea, and of course we had time to watch Shortland Street. Our plans for the next day were to go to Cape Reinga and so it was an early night for ‘most’ of the group. (Pam and Jenny sat up each night and had an extra Milo and toast for supper and watched a movie on TV). Packed lunches had been made for the following day.

Tuesday An early start...we were to leave by 7am at the latest, but one certain young lady was rather slow and so it was 7.10am by the time we were able to leave and we only ‘just’ made it to the ferry at Rawene in time. It was a good trip on the boat – we had a very pleasant boatman and calm waters. We were just outside of Kaitaia when we were stopped by a police patrol check. A lady with the policeman said that the three people sitting in the back of the van did not have their safety seat belts on. Fortunately for us, she was very wrong – they were all properly belted in! Also a traffic warden at Kaitaia spoke to Jenny with regard to parking in a disabled parking place (while she went into a shop). Very officious people up there!

Later that morning we had a comfort stop and morning tea, and then we were off on our way again. We reached Cape Reinga in time for lunch. We had it up on a very high point, as will be seen in our photographs. The views were magnificent and our lunch filled a gap for all of us very nicely. We walked down the hill and over to the lighthouse – some people walked faster than others! We also enjoyed greeting the other travellers – many of whom were visiting the lighthouse from overseas. It was interesting to hear all the different accents. We stayed at the Cape for about one hour and then it was homeward bound.

We stopped again at Kaitaia for a drink and then we made it back to the ferry with twenty minutes to spare. We were back ‘home’ by 4.35p.m. It was agreed that it had been a great day – everybody was happy – and we had a nice hot meal waiting in the crock-pot. An evening of ‘telly’ was followed by each one having a shower and then going off to bed just as they wanted to. Joy’s unit had lights out by 9.30 p.m. In Unit 2, three of the group were in bed early – but the remainder of the group enjoyed nattering and having extra buttered toast! Not so good for the waistline, but the fellowship was good.

Wednesday A slow start to the day – all of us were tired but very happy and relaxed. Joy was up early having a walk along the beach and then joined Jenny for a ‘cuppa’ before anyone else stirred. Laundry needed to be done, so two loads were washed and dried – and then the sorting out of what belonged to whom. After morning tea it was off to Opononi to see the statue of the boy and the dolphin – it was beautiful weather and everyone was very happy – although to look at the ‘photo’s you would not think so!

Lunch was yummy – left over sausages with eggs, lettuce and tomato sauce in cheese buns with coffee to follow. Joy and Jenny prepared these and the others did the dishes.

After lunch we all had TIME OUT. It was so peaceful for a short time! Then it was time for afternoon tea and a walk along the beach – then off to the nearby craft shops and to Omapere Church. We thought it was closed but on trying the door we found that it wasn’t – so in we all trooped. We had a good sing-a-long of some old choruses that the folk seemed to know very well. It would have looked great on video! After this we went back to the motel and a meal of Apricot Chicken, Baked Kumara, and Potatoes and Cauliflower in Cheese Sauce. Jelly and Peaches followed this!

Thursday This was another morning of getting up when one felt like it and having breakfast at a leisurely pace. We then decided to do a spontaneous visit to Kerikeri. On passing through Kaikohe Jenny saw an old man hitching a ride back to Auckland – and recognised him as a neighbour! Unfortunately there was not any room in our van, and we were going the wrong way for him! When we arrived in Kerikeri we went to visit a retired Salvation Army Officer Couple whom we had visited on another occasion (Lt. Col. John and Doreen Callagher). They did not know that we were coming, but Doreen was taking hot scones out of the oven as we arrived – as you will see from the ‘photos – we sampled them – Scrumptious!



We had our lunch in a lovely park in Kerikeri – fish and chips – beautifully cooked and good portions. There were beautiful trees in the park and we gave them a hug before we left! As we drove through the town we stopped to look at the stone house etc. and some very small ducklings decided to get under the wheels of the van. Joy picked one up to show the ladies, but put it down promptly when mother duck squawked!

We travelled on to Kaikohe and stopped at the Hone Heke memorial. This really made our day and was a most interesting and informative place. Back ‘home’ again for a nice hot ‘cuppa’. Then some of our group went for a walk on the beach, while others played cards. It was Spaghetti on toast for tea – with apples, kiwi fruit and hot Milo. This was followed by an hilarious evening – showers and a reasonably early evening was had by all – except for those two?!

Friday: We all had an early start and were all packed and ready to go by 8 a.m. Our last day was a good one. We stopped at numerous places to do some sightseeing. The massive trees impressed everyone. It was difficult for Jenny to get all of it in the photograph frame. She had to lie down on her back. Joy could not resist this, so she took a photo of Jenny taking a ‘photo..... just as well she had her shorts on.

After passing the Waipoua Kauri Forest we turned off the main road at Donnelly’s crossing. This was a winding, gravel road but it didn’t take us long before Shelley recognised her sister Philippa’s place. They were on their way out, and so we didn’t stay too long. Not far along we stopped at Trounson Kauri Park but as the walk would have taken us about 40 minutes, we continued on our way back up to the highway - next stop was at Kaiwi Lakes.

We also stopped at the Lakes. These were about twelve kilometres from the main road but were well worth going out to see. For lunch we had McDonalds. The lady was a little flummoxed, to get such a big order at lunchtime! But she did manage. This was at Wellsford.

There was a sense of excitement in the van as we neared Auckland City. We needed to be leaving Jenny's place by 2.30p.m. in order that Joy could get us back to Ranfurly by 3.00p.m. We managed it – even after being held up in the afternoon traffic. (This was the result of an accident at Greenhithe).

It was a wonderful holiday, with lots of laughter and fun and much enjoyment of each other's company. It was also great to get back safely after travelling so many miles.

PS. One thing that has been missed out of this record - there was a beautiful sunset one evening and Sacha, Shelley and Pam went with Jenny down on to the jetty to look at the glorious sky – watching also the colours of the sky as it changed.

Whilst we were on the jetty, an American couple offered to take a photograph of all four of us together. We talked with them about 'Twin Towers' in America and how it had affected them. It was a very interesting time of sharing.

PPS. If there is anything else that we have missed to tell you – you will see all that we have done AND the places that we have visited in the photographs! Notes by Jenny Baker/Joy Jane

ROTOROA HOLIDAY 15 MARCH 2002

FRIDAY...On March 15th 2002, a very happy and excited group of people left Ranfurly Care for Rotoroa Island. The lucky holidaymakers were Mark, Jan, Michael, Shelley, Murray, Bridie, Gerard, Andrea, Brett, and Jenny.

Mike and Clive drove the two vans and got this happy group to the dock in plenty of time! We had a while to wait, and as you can tell by the photos, some folk got tired while waiting. It was a good trip and a number of the group slept. Mark was very quiet, but looked so happy.

We arrived at the wharf on Rotoroa Island - walked up to the motels, just in time for morning tea. We had an early lunch, and then while some rested, and others watched TV, Jenny, Shelley and Bridie went down to Ladies Beach. This beach is called Kaheno Cove in memory of the skipper and three children who drowned when the Kaheno sank in 1985. Everyone went for a walk up to the piggery, but alas, no pigs for the first time since we have been visiting the Island. From there up to the highest point and low and behold, there was a chair there. Murray raced to it first, and so had the honour of sitting on it. He wasn't too impressed when looking way over on the other side of the Island, told him that was where we were going to walk during the week - It was "then no way, I can't do it!" until it was explained to him that he had already climbed to the highest point! Then we made our back for an orange drink and biscuit. Gerard shot goals, while everyone else watched TV and chatted until teatime. A great welcome speech was given to us at the dining room, and the clients all clapped our Ranfurly group. Of course, Shortland Street was important, and all opted (some were encouraged) for a shower and an early night. (The mosquitoes were out in force) A number of folk asked to have lie-in.

Saturday...A lovely lie in for the group. Brett and Jenny woke up at the crack of dawn for a walk to the beach. When they came back to the unit, they crept in, and the other folk didn't wake up for a couple of hours. Michael stirred, but went back to sleep. The girls had a great sleep, and just started to stir at 9:30am. Everyone was full of high spirits, and looking forward to the day. Murray was very helpful with the breakfast and dishes. Brett, Mark, Gerard and Michael spent time throwing the Vortex. Mark enjoyed himself and was throwing well. The girls walked along the foreshore looking for shells. Brett packed lunch whilst the group went to the most distant point, and had just reached there when he arrived. The view was beautiful, and we sat right on the top to have lunch, and then moved a few metres downhill out of the breeze. There were swallows darting around, and we all had turns at using binoculars to watch the fishing boats. There was lots of happy chatter. After the evening meal, we all dressed warmly and armed with torches, went down to Kaheno Cove. It turned out to be a fantastic evening, and as the darkness fell, the sky became very starry. One of the group saw the first bright star, and called out "Look, there's Chris Martin". We talked about Chris quite a lot, and missed having him with us. Jenny disappeared quietly from the group, and went and hid by an old dinghy. The only thing was, she hadn't told Brett and after having looked around, and voices calling out to Jenny- Murray said, "She's gone back to the motel". They decided to go and see if she

was alright - and they were alright until she jumped out amid lots of screams and laughter! Off we shot back to the motel unit for toast and Milo and then to bed for a good night's sleep.

Sunday...Everyone was showered, dressed and ready by 9am for the chapel service at 9:30. A good bright service and the Ranfurly folk REALLY enjoyed the singing- particularly Michael and Jan. Following morning tea, took the bats and balls to the courts. Some enjoyed shooting goals. Murray played Brett at tennis, and then had a go at badminton. The girls enjoyed the swings. Midday dinnertime was soon upon us. Roast Dinner followed by apple pie and cream. Then all had a lie down to revive for the next activity. A walk to the wharf, and then back to the unit because it started to rain. We watched TV, did exercises and played knuckles and slaps. It got so hot in the main unit that the girls went over to their unit to get ready for bed and watch TV. Everyone was worn out, but it has been a good day.

Monday...After breakfast, Brett packed a picnic lunch, and we all started out to the area above the wharf. Unfortunately, the part we really wanted to go to had been fenced off, and so we went down the hill, and onto Mai Mai Beach. It was so windy - but still very pleasant. The tide was on its way out, and we were able to walk along the beach. We came across part of a boat that had been washed up, and so everyone who could clamber on. After eating lunch, and sprawling out in the grass, we made our way back to the unit. The wind was very strong at our backs, helping to push us up the hill. We all had a rest before setting out to the opposite part of the Island, with the exception of Jan, Murray, and Michael, who stayed behind and watched TV, because of the difficulty of the terrain. After half an hour of walking, we had to turn back because of the strong winds, which made the journey to difficult. Then it started to rain! Gerard managed to get a piggyback from Brett, and the ladies raced on ahead. Immediately following dinner, the ladies went to their own unit, as they were all tired, and the gentlemen sat and watched TV. Mark must have enjoyed the day, as he sat with a smile on his face, or maybe it was a matter of rest at last! Michael was drowsy, and Gerard went to sleep in the chair. Murray was the last to go to bed. He really enjoyed playing cards with Brett and Jenny. The wind had at last died down a little.

Tuesday...We had a visit from a pet sheep at breakfast time. Gerard was the first to venture out, subsequently joined by Michael. Then the sheep decided to come right indoors. He baaed very loudly whilst in there. The girls were woken, and they came running across in their pyjamas. Our visitor stayed a little while, and after scattering the rubbish inside, and leaving his droppings behind, he departed. We had a lovely day. We went down to the beach. Brett had cut plastic bottles for digging a moat. Mark was the supervisor, and everyone worked on the one project, except Jan, who had her own work to do, and could not be persuaded to join in with the team. Brett and Gerard went swimming. Shelley decided to go in with her clothes on. Jenny and Andrea paddled. It was cold! Part of the group went back, picked up bread, and got lunch ready for the others. A lovely siesta, and then some played cards. Brett taught Murray a new game. We had a late dinner because of the Maori service, watched Shortland Street, had supper, and then went to bed.

Wednesday. It dawned a beautiful day. Mark was extremely tired, after having visited Brett and Jenny's room in the middle of the night. It gave Jenny quite a start to hear the door open slowly, and then to see a very still figure by the bed! He stayed in bed until quite late in the morning. Brett and Gerard, Michelle and Andrea played tennis. Michael was the ball boy. Mark was the observer. Bridie and Jan went back to bed, as did Murray. Jenny went to Waiheke Island in a rubber dinghy to see a housebound friend of many years. She was out just over an hour, and was glad to get back on dry land. We enjoyed a great lunch of spaghetti and sausages. Then back up to the old piggery, then around to the back where we hadn't looked. There were five black grey brown pigs. They were so cute! We saw some cooped up chickens, and one dead fly blown sheep, which we reported to the office. Then back down to Ladies Beach to prepare the barbecue. It was fantastic down there- the sand digging that had been done the day before was still there, as the tide hadn't reached it.

The sea was deep blue, and the sand looked so golden. The tide was right out, and so the more adventurous were able to go out onto the rocks. Back we came for a late afternoon tea, and a good half rest before going up to the dining room for tea. Brett, Michael, Gerard and Mark went to the beach to clean up the barbecue and to get it going, whilst the rest of the group went to the chapel service, in which the clients on the Island were taking part. It was great- they had a Maori group singing, and the Island church singing group taking part. It was a very bright service, and the Ranfurly group once again enjoyed all the singing. They then went down, joined the others at the beach, and had a good time. It was a fantastic evening. The barbecue sausages were scrumptious, and it was a very calm and clear, starry night. It was not the usual quiet stargazing -but very noisy -

lots of singing, laughter and telling jokes. So we had a late night, but everyone was very happy.

Thursday...This was yet another beautiful day, but we had a tired group this morning. Bridie and Shelley decided to clean the unit before leaving, and were very frustrated when Jenny got them to put the old sheets back on the bed, and leave the clean ones for Friday. We all had a quiet day, preparing for our departure, yet still making the most of our surroundings. During the meal up at the dining room, Murray gave an excellent speech, and thanked the people of the Island for having us stay and giving us such lovely meals. He received great applause from the people.

Friday...We had to be up so early. The Ranfurly group was at the wharf by 6:45am. Brett and Jenny arrived just after seven, and were surprised to find it was supposed to leave at 7:00am. They would like to have stayed for the weekend! We arrived back in Auckland by 8:30 and Clive and Mike arrived soon after to meet us. It was a wonderful and successful week. There were no injuries and no sickness, and everyone enjoyed themselves.

There's another star in *Weddings* host Jayne Kiely's family

Jayne's SPECIAL OLYMPIC hero



Popular TV presenter Jayne Kiely didn't have to think twice before volunteering her support to the Special Olympics' national fundraising campaign which starts this week.

Not only is Jayne (née Mitchell) a former top athlete herself – representing New Zealand in the long jump at two Commonwealth Games and a world track and field championships – but more importantly, the *Weddings* and *Mitre 10 Dream Home* host has a special bond with the charity through her love for her Down's syndrome brother-in-law Gerard Kiely, 39, just one of the many intellectually disabled athletes who will benefit from the Sky City sponsored fundraiser.

"I don't think you'll get anyone who is more grateful for any support than these guys," she says.

Jayne, 37, has known Gerard since she first met her husband Paul during her days as one of Ansett's ground staff at Queenstown airport in the late 1980s. Gerard would come from Auckland to stay and go to work with Jayne, blasting around the terminal on the baggage carts.

"At our wedding he was the ringbearer, but when he came up to give me the ring he wouldn't go back to his seat," recalls Jayne. "Of course he thinks we're married now, but that's cool. He did see me compete, but he remembers me more

favoured, so when he comes to stay we just boogie all day. He's a real groover."

Jayne wouldn't miss seeing Gerard compete in his swimming events at the Special Olympics' National Games in Auckland at the end of the year. She gave out medals at a similar event in Christchurch a few years ago and was overwhelmed. "If anyone needs a serious

A former top athlete herself, Jayne can't wait to see brother-in-law Gerard compete.

'If anyone needs a serious dose of hugs and kisses, I recommend it'

from TV now and he loves to tell all his mates, 'I know her, I'm married to her'."

Gerard, who lives in the Ranfurly Care hostel in Auckland during the week, stays with Jayne, Paul and their children Tom, 3, and Jack, 11 months, every chance he gets. Jayne says he is like a big brother to Tom, sharing toys and playing soldiers.

"Music is one of his biggest passions," says Jayne. "Michael Jackson is a

dose of hugs and kisses, I recommend it – you come home well loved, it's so neat.

"At the Olympics, people like Marion Jones and Carl Lewis throw their arms in the air after winning the 100m, thinking, 'I've just made \$2 million.' These guys do the same after they cross the line, but in their case they're just as excited because their mum is in the crowd taking a picture."

Story: James Graham

CASH CALL

Donations to the appeal can be made nationwide by phoning 0800 282 821 from now until July 20.

Aucklanders will also have the chance to donate through door-to-door collections – phone Tim Kay on (09) 523 2456 if you can help carry a bucket – and at major retailers.

Proceeds go towards training and coaching for New Zealand's Special Olympians and this year's major event, the National Games, to be held in Auckland in November and December.

With 40 per cent of all intellectually disabled people participating regularly in over 14 different sports, New Zealand has the highest percentage of Special Olympians in the world.

Picture: Simon Runtting. Make-up: Clare Bridgeman

INTERNATIONAL DAY at the Activity Centre





STANMORE BAY

18-20 MARCH 2002

With the sun shining, the van was loaded up with goodies, luggage and people? but where were we all going to fit. After much huffing and puffing and Selwyn sitting with a very tight seat belt we all set off. We being Aaron, Brett, Caresse, Clive, Geoff, Kiona, Stephen and Selwyn. As we chugged over the harbour bridge with the radio blaring we were all in holiday MOOD. Soon we were setting into our cosy holiday home in Stanmore Bay with Clive, Selwyn and Geoff sharing the batch. Of course we couldn't start our day without a cup of tea to get us into the swing of things. And so with us all rested set out to explore and headed down onto the beach.

With the blue sky and white sand it was a glorious walk-through interrupted at times only by Aaron's cell phone. He was so popular answering calls from all sorts of people. But he still had enough time and energy to chase Kiona with some very smelly seaweed! It was hard to imagine that we were so close to Auckland and were sitting under a large Pohutukawa. After all this exercise we were all ready for some lunch and so wandered back to the house.

Our plans for going out for a picnic were washed away by a sudden down pour so it was a picnic inside. With the sun out again we headed off to Shakespeare park and Gulf Harbour, but both looked a bit windswept so we headed to Matakatia bay to investigate sign for café. The café has a view to distant Auckland and from Whangaparoa you can see the sky tower. We all enjoyed our coffee's and the holiday atmosphere.

Back at Stanmore, it was time to think of dinner with Geoff giving a hand chopping vegies and looking after the sausage casserole. Caresse meanwhile was in charge of pre dinner drinks and snacks and was happily handing out the cokes and lemonades. Selwyn happily worked in the kitchen doing the drying up putting away, pleased to be involved.

Tuesday dawned glorious and so we decided to head north and go to Goat Island Marine Reserve with a trip out on the glass bottom boat. People, chillybins and supplies were piled into the van and we headed north-though not before Geoff had shown us his professional skills at the service station filling the petrol and cleaning the windows. Our first stop north was at the honey farm where we watched the Queen Bee surrounded by her thousands of workers busily making honey. Our tiki tour continued onto sheep world just north of Warkworth where we had to have a reviving hot chocolate - Ah this touring is hard work. We wandered around the art shops with great debate about a new hat for Caresse, but she decided that she wanted to stay with her tried and true old blue cap.

After all this retail, it was time to go to the farmyard where we all had a great time being chased by ducks, hens and assorted fowl whilst we fed the animals. Trying not to lose our fingers in the process as the pony, goats and sheep devoured the pellets we had for them. The animals were not really the only ones feeling peekish so we headed off to Goat Island for lunch. Arriving in time to find that a large percentage of Auckland School population had also decided to go to Goat Island for the day. They found a patch of beach not covered with kids and enjoyed our lunch and thinking how were we going to reach the boat on the other side of the stream.

With this was when our real adventure began.

Our intrepid travellers were not deterred by washed out paths and crumbling cliffs, they gamely scrambled up the slope, after first balancing on the chilly bin and trying hard to push Clive off the ledge into the stream. After much huffing and puffing we reached the beach much to the surprise of a group of school children who found us crawling out onto the beach from under a tree stump.

Our reward was a great trip out on the boat. Our captain was very informative showing us snapper, stingray, parore as well as lots of other sea life. A great trip and well worth the effort to get to the boat.

After all this exertion we were all in the need for a little treat so our next stop was Ducks Crossing Café in Warkworth for a cold drink and a relax watching the river and ducks go past. After such a full day it was not a surprise that the van echoed to snoring as we drove back to our house in

Stanmore Bay. So it was an easy dinner of yes Fish and Chips. After which we were so full we just sat and chatted happily.

Our last morning started with scrambled eggs for breakfast and decision on what to do with the morning before we met Glynis's group for lunch. Puhoi Cheese Café was the winner so of we set ready for a delicious morning tea. After all, what would a holiday without these little treats. The cheese factory is situated down in the lovely Puhoi Valley past the Puhoi Settlement and Pub. We settled down under a huge umbrella after choosing walnut muffins and hot chocolates and Kiona discovering the delights of Mochachinos she is now convert to this coffee and chocolate concoction. Whilst sitting there Glynis phoned and Clive then spent the next five minutes trying to turn off his cell phone whilst everyone laughed. He was saved by Geoff our cell phone expert who managed to switch it off and retrieve Glynis message.

With the others at Stanmore it was a tie to meet for lunch (did we need it,probably not!) so we headed back and had a lovely shared lunch under the Pine tree.

It was sad for our group, the others had arrived to take over our house and we apart from Caresse were heading back to Auckland. But we all had a great time lots of laughs lots of food and good Company—THAT'S WHAT HOLIDAYS ARE ALL ABOUT. By Kiona



Holiday at Stanmore Bay 5 – 8 March 2002

Tuesday 5 March 2002....Well the day has finally arrived and Wendy and Mike are making sure we have all the things off our checklist. We did a few last minute adjustments and started to load the van. It was surprising – we had lots of equipment – BBQ's gas bottle, sleeping bags, tents, buckets, pots, pans, knives, forks, spoons, plates – the list was endless. All we think that we forgot was the kitchen sink.

We successfully loaded the van and even got our students in! They were very excited and a little cramped, but we reassured them that it wouldn't be like this going back. We had a lot of food to munch our way through, so there will be more room on the journey home!

The Ranfurly send off was the best! Lots of clapping and cheering. We picked up Steve from Cornwall Park Avenue, which then made six of us in all. There were two caregivers Wendy and Mike and four students – Bobbie, Bruce, Deane and Steve. We were heading towards Tawharanui Regional Park, which is about one and a half-hours drive north of Auckland. The first stop was the service station for a safety check – oil, water, and tyre pressure. We then headed for the motor way out of the big smoke for some clean fresh air. The journey there was not a hassle – free flowing traffic all the way, and before we knew it we were in Warkworth, by the river with all the ducks. We stretched our legs, but not for long as everyone was eager to get to our destination. Another half an hour's driving and we were headed for Matakana, lots of vineyards on the way and beautiful countryside. Off the tar seal road and on to gravel, up and over the big hill as we weaved ourselves along the steep and winding roads until finally with great applause we had reached Tawharanui.

We checked in with the ranger who briefed us as to where we should go and what the security combination was on the padlock that let us into the park. Once inside we saw the other campers – a group of trainee physical education teachers from A.C.E., and a large number of schoolchildren all having fun and doing their activities. So we travelled past these happy campers until we saw a patch which tickled our fancy, lush green grass, trees along the fence line and beyond the sand dunes leading to the white sandy beach and sparkling blue sea. We were in a Marine Reserve – no fishing allowed. We very quickly set up the camp, three tents in all – two people in each – nice and cosy! We had a lunch of cold chicken, bread, salad fruit and a juice drink to refresh us all and then we went exploring. Heading towards the sound of the sea – what a beach – it took us two hours to walk along it and explore the sea caves on the way – taking in the magnificence of God's handiwork. Camping is about relaxing and with all this sea air everyone was ready for a little snooze! Teatime was a BBQ with chicken, steak, salad and roast potatoes all cooked on the Barbie! After tea we had a good clean down, washed and dried the dishes and made sure no litter was left lying around. Three of us – Deane, Wendy and Mike went to the top of a trig point – fantastic views. Stephen meanwhile was collecting shells on the beach. We then all went on a forty minute stroll around the camp ground and came back to our welcoming tents. It was getting dark now, as it was eight o'clock. While the students were getting ready for bed – brushing their teeth and having a wash, Wendy and Mike prepared the guys a welcoming hot cup of Milo. By the time they had all finished their hot drinks it was pitch black and the torches were on for the first time and it was now time for us to go to our beds. Nothing beats the great outdoors – what a way to end the day falling off to sleep – listening to the lullaby motion of the sea.

Wednesday 6 March 2002...What a beautiful morning the sun was coming up from behind the hills and the sea looked like glistening jewels from the sun's rays – it is like being in Paradise. Everyone had a great sleep, the water as on the boil for coffee and teas and cereals, which was for the starter! This was followed by sausages, bacon, baked beans and buttered bread – what a way to start the day. There are no showers here, so we have all had a strip wash, cleaned our teeth, combed our hair and then got stuck in to the dish washing duties and camp clean up. The sun was by now getting quite hot, so it is slip, slop, and slap for everyone, a bottle of water, caps and hats on heads and away we went for our next great outdoor adventure. This time we were heading towards Tokatu Point, which was well sign posted, and it read 'One Hours walking time.'" The sun was up and we were ready for anything. Our first port of call was a quaint little information type shack, just off of the beach. It was full of information leaflets, pamphlets, maps and pictures on the wall etc. Then we had a toilet stop and away we were again, crossing a deep ravine, over a bridge and the climb began – up the steep and rocky footpath to the top of the hill. What a view we had there! – Green rolling paddocks, sheep by the hundreds and the sea view was to die for. Along the trek we went up to the trig point. We went past a herd of cows, which were blocking the pathway and didn't want to move. Bruce was quite scared and refused to go any further, but with a little persuasion he allowed me Mike to gave him a 'piggy back' past the cows. He really made the effort to come out of his 'comfort zone' Well Done! Finally, we reached our destination – Lookout Bay –not for the fainthearted, the lookout was perched right on top of the cliff top, with thundering sea's and jagged rocks below. It felt quite comforting to view from this platform. The walk had taken us one and half-hours so we all had a well-deserved rest, along with lots of drinking water and an energy bar. The walk back seemed much quicker, but in all we had been on the go for three hours by the time we got back to camp. The weather was now at its peak – very sunny and hot, so we got the tarpaulin and put it under the shade of a big tree where there was a slight sea breeze – and we had our well earned lunch. Lunch consisted of corned beef sandwiches, ginger ale and a slice of delicious watermelon. The guys were all feeling pretty tired so a snooze was in order to replenish

our lost energy! Mike had the diaries to do, so after completing them (and half a packet of biscuits) he also had a snooze – perfect!

Time flies when you are having fun – and soon it is time to get the dinner on. Tonight at Mike's outdoor café there is steak, potatoes, onions, fried tomatoes and bread and butter on the menu. Mouth watering peaches and tea and coffee. Everyone ate the lot – which is a 'good sign'! Our chores had to be done and we were getting into a good routine by now – so it didn't take us that long. We were all feeling hot and sticky after this, so we decided to go for a swim in the sea. Steve went looking for shells and Bobbie and Bruce decided to be lifeguards and watch us. The tide was out, but that did not stop Deane – he headed straight for the water at a high rate of knots. Mike decided that if Deane can do it then so could he. "Ahh" he really had to put on a brave face as the water was cold, but there was Deane, straight in and playing in the surf! Next it was Mike's turn, he said that once he was in it was surprisingly quite pleasant! Then 'camp mother, Wendy ventured in with a splash and a scream and they were all swimming like dolphins! They were supported by Bobbie and Bruce laughing from the shore. After the swim, they dried off and put their 'jarmies' on. They sat on the tarpaulin and waited for their hot cup of Milo. Wendy and Steve were still feeling adventurous and decided to walk along the beach under the stars, along with their torch. While they were doing this, Bobbie was all 'tuckered out' and hit the sack! Deane also said 'good night' and retired. Mike and Bruce chatted for a while and waited for Wendy and Steve to get back. By 9.30p.m. we were all tucked up safely zipped in our sleeping bags in our tents – Good Night!

Thursday 7 March 2002.. What a beautiful morning – the sun is up, the cicadas are singing away, wild turkeys are scurrying for food and the sea gulls are noisily shrieking around the tents. The campers are still in bed, but the 'billy' is fired up ready for their awakening – you can't beat a nice cup of tea or coffee in the open air of this gorgeous park. The Ranfurly Campers, who had good nights' sleep, were soon up ready to embrace the day, but first things first. There was breakfast of Weetbix, sausages, bacon and baked beans – all cooked on the BBQ! Camp chores first, and then it was decided that we would go in the van for a little 'tiki tour'. Around we headed for Matakana, passing a few bays on the way – and deciding that we stop off at them on the way back. As we were cruising along taking in all the sights we came across a Palm Garden. It was fantastic; it was like being in a jungle! We took a few photo's and on we went this time to Omaha Beach, past the golf course and outdoor bowling green – stopping at BP Life Surfers hut which was right on the beach. What a beach it was with miles of white sand and hardly anybody on it. We dipped our toes in the water and had a good look around and off we went again, this time heading for Buckleton's Beach. Very secluded spot with grass and trees along the beachfront. We stopped there and had lunch. It was a feast of corned beef sandwiches, sardines, cheese, cold sausages, bacon and beans, bread and butter, crackers, corn chips, banana's and water melon oh and lime 'pop' to finish off. After all this food we did not feel like doing anything, but we pressed on to see more bays and we stopped off at Baddley's Beach. A very quaint little place and just around the corner was Campbell's Beach, again another picturesque place with 'a smelly long drop"! We headed back to camp and stopped off at one last place, Anchor Bay. We decided to come back to camp. When we got back there we took a walk along the beach and found a spot under the shade of a tree. It was very sunny, so we were well covered in sunscreen and we all had our hats on. Here we took in the view and had a snooze. Wendy, Mike and Deane went for a swim in the surf 'what a holiday' we were all having. After two hours on the beach we headed back to camp and had a nice cup of coffee and chocolate biscuits. Had another bit of a rest and Wendy then took the group up the beach to take 'photos of the sea cave. Are they getting hungry again? Time to spark the barbie up. The menu for the nights' meal was marinated steak, lettuce, tomato, and beetroot with a dessert of fruit salad 'yummy'! Yes and you guessed it, we didn't have waiters to take our plates away – so there were camp chores that now needed to be done. We all got stuck in and as quick as a flash we were all cleared. With it being our last night, we had our tea a little later than usual, so it was now beginning to get dark. We decided to take a walk along the beach for the last time – it felt so right..... The walk took us about half an hour and by the time we got back to camp we were all pretty tired. The guys got themselves ready for bed, while Mike made them a nice cup of hot Milo, which they drank under the night time stars. We all eagerly drank the Milo and chatted about the day, and we were all feeling a little sad, as we had to go back tomorrow. Out of the blue (to cheer us all up) Bruce decided to do his famous 'haka' and what a performance it was. Performed like a true professional. Anyway now it really was time for bed and we all said good night and hit the sack. Within fifteen minutes of retiring the night air was filled with the sound of contented campers snoring, Good night.

Friday 8 March 2002... "Good morning campers" it is our last day here and there is lots to be done. The weathermen had got the forecast wrong; it was not cloudy at all – it was a glorious morning. The sun was rising – hardly any clouds, the sheep were grazing on the hillside and the wild turkeys were going about their usual morning stroll. The seagulls and gannets were still looking for tit-bits on the ground around the tents and people jogging by complete the scene. It is marvellous what a beautiful country NZ is, and it makes one appreciate Gods' handiwork.

Time to put the 'billy' on and for Mike to get himself ready. Good timing – by the time he had finished the billy had boiled and everyone was getting up. It was about 8 o'clock – tea or coffee?

Breakfast this morning was a bowl of cereal followed with the usual BBQ'd breakfast of sausages, bacon, baked beans and bread and butter. No time to sit around this morning and chat – there is work to be done! First everyone had to wash and get ready and then they had to start on the camp chores. While the student were doing that, Mike, Deane dropped the tents, folded them up in that special way so that they will fit back into their 'tiny tent bags'. Everyone made sure that they all had their own belongings, bags, sleeping bags, blankets etc. The BBQ had to be dismantled and thoroughly washed. Then "THE VAN" had to be packed! Well we did pretty well, it only took us one and half-hours to pack up camp and when we had finished, it was time for our last swim. Deane and Mike ran at full pelt straight into the sea, while Wendy gingerly waded in. What a swim – the surf was crashing in, but we couldn't spend too long in the water though we all wanted to stay.

Time was moving on and we had a dead line to keep – we had to leave the camp at 11.00a.m. We got back to camp with just enough time to dry off, have some orange juice and a muesli bar, and then we had to check to ensure that we were leaving no litter behind anywhere.

We said goodbye to our friendly neighbours and off we went heading toward Leigh and our Friday special – fish and chips! Friday would not be Friday without having this delicacy for lunch!

When we arrived at Leigh we went down to the wharf – but it was too sunny- no shade – so we headed for Matheson Bay. It was only 4km's away. This was the best bay so far – it was glorious! There is a grass verge perched right on top of a sandy beach with lovely trees for shade and tables for us to sit and eat our fish and chips. While we were there, there was a school of divers getting ready to explore what was beneath the sea. They had a great big van with music coming from it for our entertainment as well! Ducks pecked at our feet waiting for scraps to be thrown to them. We washed the meal down with some ice cold Coca-Cola – who could ask for anything more? After our feed, we had a little walk up the grass bank and at the top there was a seating area with an anchor (cemented to the ground). There was a plaque, which said that the Matheson family made the anchor 100 years ago. It had been found again in the Bay itself in 1973. Most interesting! Anyway, it was now 1 o'clock, and it was time to start heading back to Auckland and reality. It has been a fantastic holiday everyone has had a wonderful time and a great experience of the great outdoors. Thank you Linda for making this possible for all of us. Notes Prepared by Mike Smith (His own words!)

Disability Survey Results

The first Snapshot: Key Facts from Statistics NZ on the Disability Survey, which was conducted after the census last year, has just been released. The summary shows that:

- ✦ One in 5 New Zealanders has a disability.
- ✦ Disability increases with age - 54% of people over 65 reported having a disability.
- ✦ Two-thirds of disabled people have a physical disability
- ✦ The number of people with mild disabilities has decreased and the number of moderate disabilities has increased.
- ✦ The number of people with disabilities living in intellectual disability units and mental health facilities has decreased.
- ✦ One in 5 maori has a disability, the same proportion as the total population. The rate is 1 in 7 for Pacific Islanders.
- ✦ 15% of Maori children had a disability which is higher than the national rate of 11%.
- ✦ The majority of people with a disability (60%) have more than one.
- ✦ The leading cause of disability is disease/illness (40%) followed by accident/injury (30%)
- ✦ One-third of disabled adults living in households used special equipment. 12% had an unmet need for some type of special equipment.

Further snapshots will be released over the next few months. The topics will be: Maori; Pacific Peoples; People in Residential Care; Children; Sensory Disabilities; Physical Disabilities; Intellectual Disabilities; Psychiatric & Psychological Disabilities.

For lots of fascinating information on either the disability snapshots or the Census results

Ph: 357 2100 Fax: 379 0859 Web: www.stats.govt.nz Email: info@stats.govt.nz

NEWSLETTER MID YEAR 2002

Dear Friends,



No, I have not forgotten you all and find it hard to believe that eight months have flown by since the last newsletter, the holidays, and the busy end of year Christmas events. Since then the staff have all enjoyed a get together to celebrate a midyear Christmas luncheon at the 'Springs' Western Springs on 11 July. This last social occasion brought home to us with a jolt, that half the year was already over! In this, the second half of the year, we are now at the planning stage of organising the celebrations for Ranfurly's ten year birthday, February 1992-2002 anniversary. The Activity Centre is working on a production, *You Are Special*. Watch this space and make sure you keep Friday 1 November free - make a note in your diary *now* as we want to share this special occasion with all of you. We would not be in the position we are in today if it was not for the generous and ongoing support of many of you.



Disability Sector News

A new office was set up within the Ministry of Social Development on 1 July 2002. Reporting directly to the Minister for Disability, the office will give policy advice and lead the Governments implementation and monitoring of the NZ Disability strategy. Six full time staff will be employed initially. Ms Dyson said "the new office would address the long-standing need for a cross sectoral approach to disability issues. For years, the disability sector has been concerned about the inappropriate placement of all disability issues in a health context. People with disabilities face barriers in many areas, including education, employment, housing transport and social services".



The Minister of Disability Issues published a report entitled - Progress in Implementing the NZ Disability Strategy. It is available in Braille, electronically and on audiotape as well as a regular version. For a copy, contact: NZ Disability Strategy, Ministry of Health, P O Box 5013 Wellington or telephone 04 496 2554 or email nzds@moh.govt.nz

During May, I attended a full day seminar facilitated by the MOH (Ministry of Health) on the subject of H&DSS (The Health and Disability Services (Safety) Act 2001). The workshop was to update all service providers on the new Standards and Certification, designed to replace the present annual registration system. Translated, we all now have a transition period before applying for certification, during which time the Auditors will assess as to whether all providers comply with the soon to be implemented standards. The MOH have provided a workbook for us to use as a guideline, which outlines the new standard criteria (now to be met). It is now necessary for us all to review our current systems & processes specified in the H&DSS Act. They recommend that we use the workbook to self-audit our systems and processes, in order to identify if there are any areas that need modifying in order to comply.

The certification is outcome focused with the emphasis on quality improvement and risk management processes. Finally, following the audit, the Director-General will assess the auditor's information and assessment before deciding whether to certify a service provider. The new statutory standards to be met by all in the sector are;

- The Health and Disability Sector Standards
- Infection Control
- Restraint Minimisation and Safe Practice

In their words, to summarise, the MOH aim for the new statutory framework is to improve consumer safety and encourage a continuous quality improvement activity in the health and disability sector.

Residential Homes

Christmas dinner was held at Cornwall Park for all residents staying with us on Christmas Day. During the holidays an outing was organised for each day. We took the residents on their annual holidays during March and April even though the last holidays were taken at the later part of 2001. The weather is always better at that time of the year and we are not caught up in end of year events. We have now collated all their respective news, stories and photographs into interesting souvenir albums for 2002 holidays.

Several of the residents and staff are still enjoying a YOGA Class focusing on stretching. Just as well there are no cameras as we must be a sight for sore eyes all huffing and puffing. I am amazed how flexible our residents are, they put us to shame.

Should you visit in the evening, we leave the outside front door unlocked but the inside door in the porch is locked. That way, visitors can be heard knocking at the glass door. It is very cosy in the lounge in winter with the fire going. Bobbie is very talented at lighting fires and helped by Gerard fetching the wood.

Keeping the resident's diaries is working well. It is another opportunity to be talking one-to-one to the resident finding out how they are feeling, what they have been doing. This could be something as simple as talking to a friend, looking at a book, watching a video, etc. What is recorded in the diary is the outcome of the day's events, preferably written by the residents themselves, or at least in their own words.

Restructuring CPA

From its conception CPA has been slowly evolving and developing as a new service. We have gradually met each new resident's diverse individual needs. We can now see we do not want CPA to become trapped into a holding phase. We realise we needed to restructure to achieve the original vision of providing a range of services designed for residents to reach their maximum potential through more independent living. Consequently, we have reassessed all staffing hours and levels, Job Descriptions, Job Titles, the Purpose of Position and the Key Responsibilities. We aim to employ the calibre of staff that acknowledges they have the skills or are prepared to train to achieve our targets.

In April, we held a Special staff meeting at CPA to discuss restructuring plans to meet our policy and service requirements. Therefore, we plan to restructure Ranfurly's resources to achieve the best advantage for the people we serve. Diane Wilcox from Ashley Cottage has been appointed to work in conjunction with myself to oversee the restructuring of the Cornwall Park Residential Services. Jane Roderick accepted our letter of appointment and started on 20 May in the new position of Service-Coordinator/Caregiver. Jane is a registered nurse and has an ACE degree in Human Services. An important component of the senior Coordinator's job description will now be to supervise and direct the remainder of the staff. Patricia Matton-Cole accepted the role of the Residential Weekend Coordinator/Caregiver from 1 August 2002. She brings a wealth of experience of working with the intellectually disabled from her hands on experience working for Workforce Industries at their Pinnacle Products division.

After due consideration we have reconfigured the previous Coordinators' roles into three new jobs with the following titles, Service Coordinator/Caregiver, Residential Weekend Coordinator/Caregiver and Residential/Trainer/Caregiver.

Sadly Ailsa left CPA after a happy farewell 'bit of a do' attended by grateful family, residents and staff on 31 July. Ailsa recommenced working for Ranfurly Care Society Inc. in July 1999 after moving back to Auckland and has remained with us working at Cornwall Park since the July inception. She decided to move to live in the South Island to be with her daughter and delightful two grandchildren who are growing up all too quickly.

I recently had a meeting with all the CPA residents to inform them of all the restructuring changes and gave them all an information folder. We have designed the 16-page folder for all residents to keep in their units. The information folder includes, a Welcome, Entry Agreement, Service Agreement, Resident Rules, Helpful Information re Telephone, Personal Alarms, Fire Safety, Heat Detectors, etc, Shopping Guide and List, Rosters, Complaint and Compliment Form, Code of Rights HDC, and a Community Services Index with a Grid Map Reference.

Profile of Elaine, a CPA Caregiver

My name is Elaine Kuytenbrouwer. I was born in Den Haag, Holland. I have a sister (Louise) who was also born in Den Haag, Holland. My father emigrated to live in New Zealand in 1957 while working as an engineer in Wellington where he met my mother. My mother was born in Wellington her parents come from Ireland. My parents got married in 1960 before returning to live in Den Haag, Holland. My family lived in Holland until I was 5 years old before emigrating to South Africa where my father got an engineering contract. Whilst there, my sister and I went to school in Johannesburg where I still have two friends living there. They emigrated there from Prague in Czech Republic.

After leaving South Africa, my family went on a world trip to Asia, Australia, Cook Islands, South America and Europe before returning to Holland. My family lived in Holland until I was twelve years old before emigrating to live in Wellington, New Zealand.

After leaving school, I got my first job as a warehouse/counter-sales person – working for Lucas NZ Ltd. (in Mt. Wellington). I worked there for eight years. After leaving this job, I looked after my mother who had a terminal illness for about six months until she passed away.

My second job was a Caregiver/Support worker for IHC South Auckland caring for people with Intellectual Multiple Disabilities – at a day service centre in Otara. I worked there for two years. Whilst working there I attended a course at Manukau Tech in 1993, which provided me with a certificate “Certificate in Teaching People with Disabilities”. My third position was as a Caregiver/Support worker for AGAPE Trust in Papatoetoe, working for people with Intellectual Disabilities for 18 months. I am now enjoying my work at Ranfurly.

Activity Centre

A big, big welcome to our three new students, Noelene Rowland, Tony Bennett and Stephen Cathie.

The Activity Centre’s end of year performance ‘Celebrate the World’ was a unique opportunity to share a night of fellowship, traditional music, food and song. The last day for students in 2001 was 20 December. The ever-popular Santa paid his annual visit followed by the Nativity Play, a sausage sizzle, and the traditional water fight. Friday 21st, we had a ‘clean up’ day managing to easily fill a bin. In the New Year, I enjoyed spending a day with the Activity Centre staff rescheduling and establishing a timetable for the New Year’s activities ready for the 22nd January 2002 New Year start. Our congratulations to Mike Smith on graduating from the Auckland College of Education with a Diploma for teaching people with disabilities. We are fortunate to have another student Tahi spending his placement time with us each Monday this year. Tahi is also employed by Ranfurly each Friday teaching computer lessons to many of the students and maintaining the current equipment. Thressiamma, known as Teresa, was welcomed as a new staff member, and Mike and Wendy accepted full time placement.

Profile of Teresa, Activity Staff Member

Thressiamma Derrick has a Bachelor as well as a Masters Degree in Social Work (Specialized in Medical and Psychiatry), and has had ten years experience in working with individuals, groups and families. Teresa has worked as a Social Worker, Counsellor and Training Coordinator, and as Manager of a variety of overseas projects. Apart from 6 months maternity leave in 2001; she has been working in the Ranfurly home for more than a year as a Caregiver. She has an interest in group interaction and social development skills consequentially a variety of recreational programmes have been conducted in the Ranfurly Home. These enable the residents to develop skills in reasoning, thinking and interacting.

Her plan in the Activity Centre is to conduct indoor and outdoor recreational programmes through role-plays and group activities. The objectives of these programmes are to develop self-esteem, leadership qualities, reasoning and self-confidence and provide cohesiveness among the students.

We gave all the Special Olympic competitors a copy of a video taken by a staff member at the recent National Games. We have spare copies if anyone is interested – you only have to ask.

On the first Friday in every month at 10.30 am, Glynis and Wendy are promoting car washes in the

Ranfurly car park as a fund raising project with the proceeds going to World Vision to support our disabled child Chipego who lives in Zambia. You may be interested to participate at the cost of \$2.00 wash only, or \$5.00 wash and vacuum.

Anne Beardsmore our Work and Income National contracts advisor called on March 11th to tell us that we were successful in our proposal for "One-Off Quality Project Funding". We had applied for the purchase of a computer to act as the main administrative tool and database. The software will consist of a relational database based on Fileserver Pro named the AMHS Information System, developed by Rob Warriner and already in use by organisations similar to our own.

Staff Training

As you can see we have all been able to attend a variety of some very interesting lectures and courses.

- 18 January All Activity staff training by Linda on Life Style Planning, the role of Key Persons and TARGET/ Manheim Health and Safety Employee Handbook Presentation. Attended by all staff.
- 1 February All Residential and CPA staff training by Linda on Life Style Planning, the role of Key Persons and TARGET/Manheim Health and Safety Employee Handbook Presentation. All staff attended.
- 8 March Fire safety Training, 2pm-3:30pm. Facilitated by First Fire Systems Video and visual aids: how to work fire extinguishers. Attended by all staff.
- 21 March Michael Kendrick facilitated: Family/Consumer Leadership Auckland College of Education 9:30am-2:30pm. Attended by three staff.
- 8 May Margaret McLean, Auckland College of Education, Challenging Behaviour 9:30am – 12:30pm. Attended by all staff.
- 24 May Health and Disability Services (Safety) Act 2001. All day seminar, facilitated by MOH. Attended by the manager.
- 24 May "Posture, Movement, and Safe Lifting" by Creative Abilities 1-3pm Tuesday June 18th 2002. Talk Link by Kristy on a selection of available teaching Software. Attended by all Activity Centre staff.
- 2 July Talk link, Clicker 4 demonstration and lesson on this teaching tool software.
- 20 July Drama Therapy application by Tom Cooper and Paula Crimmens held at the Youth line Centre, Ponsonby.
- 31 July Margaret McLean, Auckland College of Education, "Challenging Behaviour" 9:30am – 4.00pm. This session repeated part one followed by part two. Several small Service Providers sent staff and all our staff attended these informative lectures.
- 29 & 30 August - Story making as a Therapeutic Tool learning the basics. A flexible way of working with a variety of people allowing exploration of sensitive issues in a respectful way. Two Activity Centre staff will be attending.

Supported Employment

Elaine Ma'ia'i was appointed and is enjoying the challenge of making excellent progress in this area. Unfortunately in February this year Geoff and Pam were made redundant from their positions with the Mobil service station, Rub 'a' Dub situated at Manukau Road, Epsom. Since then one resident has secured a job at, Newmarket and the other McDonalds Restaurant and is currently awaiting a response.

Pam has decided that under the present circumstances she will retire gracefully. One student works 2 ½ hours work at Geoff's Emporium, Dominion Road shop on Tuesday mornings. Each Wednesday morning for 3 hours, we have a group of five that work as volunteers at Mangere SPCA. Wednesday afternoon for 2 ½ hours two students work on a voluntary basis for St. Vincent De Paul Opportunity Shop. The same day we have two working on a voluntary basis at Cornwall Park Hospital, Epsom.

We still have one of our residents working every morning at the Lady Elizabeth Hospital, in the capacity of a volunteer occupational therapist. A proud father has secured work for his daughter at Colour Works Consultants north shore for three hours on a Thursday afternoon. Fridays two students work at Youth line – all very positive steps for all involved.

Bereavements

Sadly for Pamela, her mother, Mrs. Davison passed away on the 3 February, her funeral was well attended by staff, residents and students. The residents were upset to learn that our retired staff member, Heather McSweeny, passed away 3 May. Our ex resident Peter Walker died 1 May. We sent flowers and two staff members attended the service. On 5 February our dear friend, resident and student Chris Martin died of cardiac failure on his way to work at McDonalds. To break the news gently to Chris's friends at Ranfurly and Cornwall Park a small service was held at the Activity Centre for the students and residents. The afternoon tea was held at Ranfurly following the St Lukes funeral service. Again there was a large attendance to say au revoir to this popular friend.

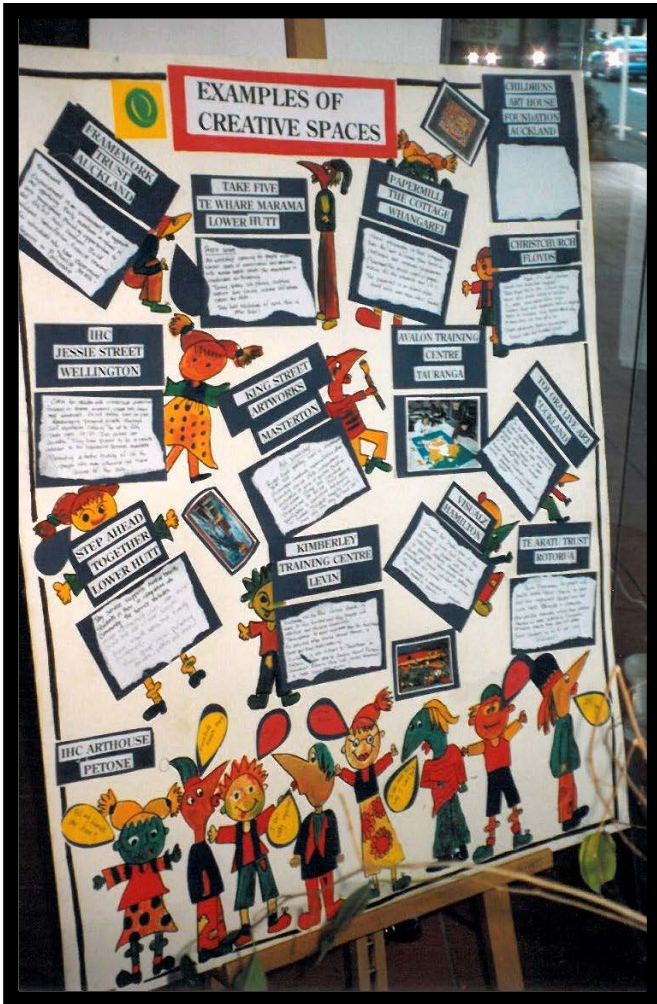
Thanking you all for your support. Linda





Dear Friends

Would you believe I started this in February, each day something extra arises and every time I get on a roll I am obliged to put it aside again; it is very frustrating. It is said ‘Time and Tide’ waits for no man or should I say person if one wants to indulge in the ridiculous politically correct terminology!



From the 25-27 February Glynis, Paul and I went to an inspiring conference 'Creative Spaces' held in Wellington, facilitated by Arts Access Aotearoa. It was a platform for networking, a chance to learn from the wide range of experienced speakers and a time to share experiences. I was so full of pride, reflecting on the many, many, creative spaces we have created within the Ranfurly services. Paul did us proud with his fifteen minute 'show and tell'. Basically he provided for the audience an illustration of the creation and significance of the 10th anniversary play 'You are Special' using the concept of colour, from gray to coloured days.



Glynis and I enjoyed an evening at Government house.

I cringed as I listened to a psychiatrist remembering care that was considered appropriate in the 1960's, when institutions focused predominantly on the safety aspect of care by keeping people in a controlled space. The residents must have suffered total social deprivation. They did not have clocks, mirrors, photos, or even personal belongings. It is hard to believe that we belong to a generation that condoned (through ignorance) these unbelievable conditions. I remember when doctors advised the appropriate care for my daughter would be to 'put her away, forget her.'

What a difference in 2003 when together we have experienced our 'Ara Marama' (the enlightened pathway) experiencing the materialisation of a vision to establish a quality service for people with an intellectual disability. It has been a long journey of self discovery and personal growth for us all. You realise each day there are no problems, just different challenges. I loved some of the phrases at the conference; Creativity is contagious - a focus on creativity will lead to changed behaviours - blood is to the body as creativity is to the spirit - we care for people with differing abilities (not people with a disability).

A belated Happy New Year to you all. The Chinese New Year forecasted a year of peace and harmony, as it is the year of the serene and peaceful goat/sheep. Unfortunately, is not progressing along those lines at the moment - but we all hope and pray that the year will end with more peace and harmony for the world. One of our dear Chinese families has included the staff and students in a Chinese tradition for the past four years by a giving us all token gift of money in a red and gold envelope, symbolizing a wish for good luck, good fortune, safety and prosperity.

The last newsletter was sent just before the Annual General Meeting 29 September 2002. We held another very successful garage sale on 7 September, raising \$3780. We used these funds to purchase a 43" Toshiba 100 Hz back projection TV. Since then life has been full on for Ranfurly with the very successful 10th Anniversary celebrations held on Friday November 1, and numerous end of year Christmas celebrations.

The Anniversary evening included a light meal, static displays of Activity students work and information about their programme through the year. There was a special symbolic blessing by the lighting of three candles - representing past, present and future. These were lit by Jenny Baker (for all

staff) Ada and Bob Johnston (for all families) and Linda Malcolm (for all students and residents). The formal blessing was given Rev Jo Kelly-Moore and Father Bernard Kiely. This was followed by the magical play, 'You Are Special' which was produced by Paul Kelly-Moore. (Shown on the cover page). This was all captured on an excellent video production by Ian McLean.

We have another keepsake, an excellent booklet called 'Giving Families Choices 1991-2002', written and collated by our president – Jan Mitchell. It provides an interesting insight into the history of the purchase of Ranfurly from IHC and giving it back to families. We were very grateful to Teddy and Alister Martin for their generous donation to cover the cost of the publication of the booklet.

Disability Support Services

From 1 July 2003, Disability Support Services will become separate for those people over sixty five. Those services will be transferred to the District Health Board subject to a cabinet decision based on the D.H.B proving they are capable of providing an integrated continuum of care for this age group. From July 2004, future funding and planning options for people under sixty five will be further considered. The ministry will continue to fund these services until any changes are made.

News from the Ministers desk – the Hon Ruth Dyson

Last year I asked the Ministry of Health to look at ways to improve needs assessments and service coordination for people with disabilities under the age of 65 - both within and between Government agencies. I did this because feedback from people who use needs assessment and service coordination services and the wider disability sector confirms that the current services are patchy and often poorly coordinated.

The project is developing considerable momentum. An Inter-Agency Official Group prepared a draft report for me at the end of last year. The report reviewed services, issues and models here and overseas. It drew heavily on views about needs assessment and service coordination expressed in earlier consultations, such as the very wide consultation on the New Zealand Disability Strategy. It also suggested possibilities for two or three pilot projects.

Over the next three years, \$2.6 million has been set aside to fund these assessments and service projects and their evaluation. The funding will come from the Ministry of Research, Science and Technology and the Ministry Government agencies.

Two meetings were held in Wellington in late January 2003 to get people's views on options for the pilot projects. One was for people with disabilities, the other for carer and disability agency representatives.

An interesting new concept, the formation of a new group 'Carers New Zealand'

Carers New Zealand introduced their 24 hour Online Resource Channel in May 2002, initiated by Laurie Hilsgen. The website is proving hugely successful and is receiving over 50,000 hits a month from the estimated 750,000 NZ caregivers. It brings together in a single website, a helpful jigsaw of health and disability information. Carers can access all sorts of public and private sector help, and download or link to commonly used government forms. The website is of huge value to carers.

Buying and Selling Equipment

The latest addition to the Carers NZ site is a classified section for all carers who want to buy and sell second-hand disability equipment or other items. Over the years it's easy to accumulate cupboards full of disability aids and equipment that are no longer useful. If this equipment has been sourced from the public health system, carers should return it to the Occupational Therapy department at their nearest hospital.

Often households caring for a disabled person privately buy costly aids, furniture, beds and even stair lifts. When these are no longer needed, it can be hard to find a market to sell them. It is also useful if you want to purchase something. You can place an ad in the section 'Wanted to Buy'.

This free classified section is available at its online information channel, www.carers.net.nz so carers and people with disabilities can learn about second-hand equipment that is available for sale or to give away around the country.

Care Planning Tools

Free resources that are already available at the sight include care planning tools. Carer NZ is

encouraging individual carers and groups to download copies of the Medication List, Carers Identity Card, Emergency Care Plan and Important papers list. It is felt that every responsible carer should have a completed set of these documents.

Spokeswoman Jan Moss (a mother) said "If something happens to the carer, then others will know what to do for the family member who needs help. Too often all these details are locked in carers head – it is important that others will have access to it also. There are also free information sheets, designed especially for carers dealing with such issues as financial planning, the importance of respite care, dealing with grief and tips to make the household safe for someone with a disability.

Parent and Family Resource Centre at the corner of Spring and Princess Street, Onehunga, (close to the Dolphin Theatre), are there to support families. For assistance ph (09) 636 0351.

Earth Angels

Terry Winn a photographer is looking for families who are willing to be subjects in his Earth's Angels Exhibition and book. Terry has identified carers as unsung heroes in our society and wants to capture some of them in a pictorial celebration of role caring. Carers who would like to be involved can contact Terry directly by emailing – terry@terrywinn.com

King of the Road

If the freedom of the open road appeals to you for a holiday and you need accessible transport and accommodation then Mobility Motor Homes may be what you are looking for. The adjustable seats swivel for easy transfer from a wheel chair. All the aisles in the camper have a minimum clearance of 750mm. There is a fixed queen size bed and an accessible single bed which can be extended to Queen Size. Low season is \$118 per day and high season \$294, including GST and unlimited kilometres. Phone 827 2265 or www.mobilitymotorhomes.co.nz

Life at Ranfurly

We had great fun having a group photograph session on 23 October to record this special event in Ranfurly's history.

The group photographs were part of the display at the anniversary celebrations.

These and copies of the keepsake booklet are available to anyone who would like a copy.



Stanmore Bay Holiday

14 to 17 April 2003

Monday 14

Wow! What has happened..... has Clive finally learned how to pack the van or do we have less gear than usual to take with us?! Whatever the reason was, we set off for Stanmore Bay in relative comfort in the van. The 'we' consisted of Chris, Mark, Sacha, Philippa, Laan, Andrea and Pam – with Chrissie and Clive along for company. We had the usual (traditional) loud send off from the 'Ranfurly Crowd' and it was not long before we were heading over the harbour bridge to our old haunt in Kauri Rd, Stanmore Bay. Some of us had stayed there before, but for others it was a new and exciting adventure. Beds were made, bags lost and found and finally we were all settled in. The 'girls' getting the deluxe home and the 'guys' batching it in the back of the property! Relaxed and revived with a nice cuppa we were soon off exploring. Off we zoomed towards Shakespeare Park for lunch, but what had happened to the weather? Had we left the sun back in Ranfurly Road, Epsom? No matter – lunch tasted good and the sea air was very invigorating. So much so that when we stopped for a 'photo we thought we were going to lose the van door! Everyone clung on bravely, with no one getting blown away. With all this bracing sea air of course we needed a hot chocolate to revive us, so we set off on a 'café-crawl' – we headed for one in particular that we knew of however we were obliged to negotiate road works on the pavement and verge – only to find it was closed when we got there! Eventually we ended up at the Gulf Harbour (choosing our yachts just in case we won lotto) and enjoying a nice hot drink at the Nautilus Café.

Stanmore Bay beach is quite beautiful and we enjoyed a long walk along it, sheltered from the wind by the high cliffs and lovely Pohutakawa trees. Some of us were still full of energy so while diner was cooking the disco c.d.'s were put on with Sasha showing us the latest dance moves. We whiled the evening away with sausage casserole and of course Shortland Street.

Tuesday 15

The day dawned with us all tucking into a huge breakfast of scrambled eggs, bacon, hash browns washed down with lots of tea – we were going off exploring so we needed to build up our energy. Unfortunately, we could not go on the glass bottomed boat at Leigh – due to the severe seas, but we decided we would still head north to do some more exploring. First stop was the Morris and James Pottery at Matakana where we saw a collection of brightly coloured pots. We also spent time trying to work out all the different animals and birds they incorporate into their work, everything from pigeons to pukekoes.

We were luckily under cover when a squall hit, sending cups, napkins and menus flying and people scurrying for cover as the rain came from nowhere. We were sheltering from the worst of the weather but we did think our hot choices were in danger of getting watered down. From Matakana we headed up and over the hills to Pakari Beach – a huge expanse of sand greeted us – but with the wind blowing we were being 'sand-blasted'! However, that didn't stop Clive, Andrea and Mark going for a paddle – only to get caught by the incoming waves! The result was wet shorts and trousers all round. Needless to say there were no other 'takers' for a paddle after that.....

The search was on for a sheltered lunch spot, so off we set to Port Albert – off State Highway 16 on the other side of Wellsford. This used to be the centre of an early settlement of non-conformists from England who arrived in New Zealand in 1862. It is now a quiet little back water, but was once a thriving area sending Kauri off to the rest of the world via the old wharf which is still there – and which was explored by us. We encountered more history at the Warkworth Museum where we enjoyed the many varied exhibits – everything from old irons to an outdoor 'dunny'! The best exhibits though had to be the old village stocks, which we tried out! Thankfully we all escaped intact and no one threw old tomatoes at us! We laughed so much that we nearly cried. Near to the museum was a magnificent old Kaori tree which is 800 years old – we were surprised as to how warm it was to the touch when we all

had a group hug around the tree. We returned to Stanmore Bay tired but happy – it was an early night all round!

Wednesday 16

Our Wednesday morning was rush, rush, rush as we headed for Sandspit for the 10.00 am ferry - the MV Matata. This was going to take us all to Kawau Island. Everyone did very well negotiating the steps and getting on to the ferry – those who needed it were helped by Graeme the skipper and soon we all happily settled down with a welcoming cup of coffee. The sea was a bit rough to begin with, but it soon calmed down, allowing us to take in the scenery and enjoying the visiting seagulls who came down to eat from Graeme's outstretched hand – especially one named Jonathon who was very tame indeed.

Kawau Island is sheltered and we enjoyed wandering around the remains of Government Gray's garden under the palms and surrounded by curious peacocks and wekas. Our tour of the house took us up and down stairs which everyone negotiated and coped with very well. We explored the kitchen and saw the old equipment that was used – Pam did very well recognising all the things there – and then we explored the grand state rooms, complete with their Victorian furniture – setting the scene – replicating for us the lifestyle that Governor Gray and his family would have had. We gained lots of extra knowledge there – for example we saw a picture hanging there of Prince Albert – so we now know who the park; Prince Albert Park' was named after! We shall be testing all our newly acquired knowledge in our next quiz session! Lunch time was spent defending our food from the curious peacocks and wekas – especially from one who took a liking to Sasha's purple socks! She had to be fast on her feet to stop her toes being nibbled! We drove back to our beach house thinking about our busy day – the sea air certainly makes you tired. Most of our team were snoring as we headed home! Not surprisingly though everyone woke up at the thought of fish and chips for dinner. We all enjoyed a good feed: and with Mark happily settled with a beer in his hand he looked like he could continue the holiday for a good while yet.

Thursday 17

Thursday started with all the boring things which have to be done when a holiday draws to an end. Things like packing and cleaning all had to be tackled before we could go off and enjoy the rest of the day. With bags already for our return to Auckland, we headed North again to Warkworth. We parked by the river and tried to imagine the place as it was in the photographs that we had seen at the museum – when it had been the gateway to Auckland. People would catch the boats down to Auckland when roads were very rough or non-existent. These days the river is populated by hordes of ever hungry ducks. We left the ducks and wandered up to the café which appropriately is called 'The Ducks Crossing'. There we sent the staff into a scurry when we ordered our ten hot chocolates – obviously their biggest order that day! Sheepworld is to the north of Warkworth and this was the next port of call on our itinerary. We stopped first at the gift/craft centre where a number of lovely pressies were purchased for friends and family. With our dollars fast disappearing it was time to escape and head off to the show.

A full barn greeted us all. With a big group of people from Mt Roskill, and a herd of Australians, but everyone soon settled down in their seats and watched the show. Dave (the shearer), Flipper and Kiwi (the dogs) were our hosts and were great entertainers – showing us the skills that are required for drafting, shearing and culling sheep. We had some great laughs as some unfortunate volunteers had a go at various tasks – funny for us but the sheep were probably not too amused! Phillipa was off like a shot when the chance came to feed the newly shorn sheep and we were soon all up on the stage posing for a group photograph! What an excellent show. The finale was the feeding of the bay animals (lambs) where Andrea showed off her farming skills!

With the day moving on it was time to head south, collect our gear and say good bye to our beach. So off we set for the big smoke, laughing about the adventures we had looking forward to future holidays we may have.



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Do you need a trailer? With those words ringing in our ears we filled the van even higher with goodies, bags and people. So what if we couldn't move! We were off on holiday! We being Linda, Aaron, Clare, Shelly, Judy, Vincent, Mark, Vicki, Glynis and Clive, with the suspension groaning we chugged off down the Southern Motorway on our travels, talking as we went about all the exciting things we were going to see and do. What would be best, the mountain, Rotorua or the Waitomo Caves? Amongst hundreds of Asian tourist we took a quick loo stop in the town of Hobbiton, known to people New Zealand wide as Matamata. Our journey finally slowed down in Taupo where we stopped for a late lunch by the lakefront. It was a glorious day for travel, with the lake and distant mountains looking at their best. After all the driving we finally felt that the holiday was definitely underway.

We were staying further down the lake at the Taupo Christian Camp, which is about 35 minutes south of Taupo at Mission Bay. The camp is set back off the main highway and we were very impressed as we settled into our lodge. The guys and ladies had separate areas, with a large lounge and kitchen area. Of course after all the travelling a little unwinding was in order, so it was time for tea and chatter while beds were made and bags unpacked. Linda was delighted to score a single room. There was just one slight hitch when it came to unpacking Vincent's suitcase. It was definitely fastened firmly and not to be unlocked by us in a hurry. A call for help echoed down the hall from the baffled Clive. He had manfully struggled for some time with the stubborn lock before calling assistance from Glynis. She was totally puzzled by the scene before her and took it upon herself to jump on the suitcase. Failing to move the lock a phone call to Vincent's father confirmed yes the lock did stick and he gave us the combination. Clive meanwhile was looking for the ideal tool for the job a screwdriver; but a knife opened it beautifully to our amazement. Once we had unpacked it was time to start exploring and what better way to relax after a days travel but to visit some hot pools. Off we set back to Taupo to visit the De Brett's hot pools. The pools are open air and set amongst native bush, which is most attractive. We also arrived as the Highland school from New Plymouth swarmed down the hill, what a small world, they were also staying at our camp; obviously they had the same great idea as we did. Luckily for our group the school children were all more adventurous than us and went on the aqua slides while we relaxed in the pools. Everyone had a lovely time in the pools Clare, Shelly, and Aaron showed us what great swimmers they are. While the rest of the group enjoyed soaking in the pools warm waters. The sun now setting made a pretty picture as the bush was illuminated with hidden lights, especially the small waterfall, with everyone thoroughly relaxed we returned to our camp. Where we all polished off our beef stew and mashed potatoes. This holiday sure gave us healthy appetites! While some of the group did their diaries, others busied themselves with jobs. Aaron particularly was a great help with the tea towel.

Wednesday dawned bright and cheery and with no major rush for the day we looked into a substantial breakfast of eggs, bacon and hash browns. Mark particularly enjoyed this, beaming from ear to ear when the chance for seconds came up! Our destination for the day was Mt Ruapehu and the Tongariro National Park. The closer we got to the mountain the more severe the scenery, no wonder it is the backdrop in the 'Lord of the Rings' Of course the driver was coerced into stopping so Glynis could pick mountain heather for everyone. Linda was very excited to see the blue roof of the Chateau in the distance and we stopped by the golf course in front of the Chateau for a group photo shoot. Seeing we were so lucky with the weather we drove to the top of the Bruce at 1630 meters. No snow at the car park but plenty further up the mountain. We braved the elements for yet another mountain photo, before heading back down to warmer climes. Lunch was enjoyed in the sun before we headed off to walk some of the way to Taranaki falls. We were well sheltered by the bush from the wind and it was surprising how warm we got. After all this exercise of course there had to be a reward and we rewarded ourselves with hot chocolates and marshmallows.

As Linda was so interested in the Chateau she went with Glynis and Judy for a closer look, and a peak inside the doors. Little did they know that they would get a tour round the state rooms by the concierge Kevin; he kindly showed them around, explaining about the history and current renovations. The rest of the group was very surprised to see Glynis, Judy and Linda on the balcony with the handsome Kevin! Our three ladies were suitably impressed, with Linda managing to secure Kevin's autograph as a souvenir. All decided it would be an excellent venue for a Ranfurly holiday!

Meanwhile the occupants of the van had been driven down the Bruce road, Clare being most put out that Clive would dare to leave her key person in the company of this handsome stranger! On collection of our three intrepid tourists the van rocked with laughter to tales of Kevin, how beautiful the Chateau was. What a great visit and we could well see how lucky we'd been with the weather as the clouds were rolling in and the mountains disappearing. Upon arriving near the shores of Lake Taupo once again Clive and Clare's Key person Glynis decided to tease our fun loving group member Clare by offering a quick dip in Lake Taupo.

Clare and Glynis shoes now off scrambled over slippery rocks to only get knee deep in the chilly waters of Lake Taupo amongst screams and squeals of laughter. Clive had abandoned any hope of actually getting us fully immersed in the lake he was distracted by many pieces of pumice which had washed up on the shore. His creative side took over as picked up numerous pieces ideal for that special place in his garden. Clare and I decided to weaken to the idea of a nice warm lodge and Milo as opposed to a chilly dip. Tired but happy we arrived back at camp for a relaxed evening. This evening we were in time for Shortland St, an all time favourite T.V. program so was a good excuse to eat dinner in front of the T.V. Vegetarian lasagne was soon devoured; obviously all this fresh air was good for every ones appetite. People did their own thing, T.V., dairies, drawing but it was definitely an early night for most, tired from their adventures and mindful of an early departure the next day.

We awoke to cloudy skies and the scent of rain but that did not dampen our spirits as we set off to Rotorua. Everyone had done really well to be up, dressed and into the van by 8.15 a.m. We had to be in Rotorua by 10 a.m., at Whakarewarewa thermal valley for our guided tour. Unfortunately the nearer we got to Rotorua the wetter it got and for a while there it looked like we would swim round Whakarewarewa but what a friendly greeting we got there, from the car park attendant to the train driver everyone was happy to see us and went out of their way help us. We even had our own train to drive in which protected us from the worst of the weather but not the smell!! Our driver took us past bubbling mud and sulphur vents where we had to hold our noses until we finally emerged out of the bush beside the 'Prince of Wales Feathers.' The geyser was exploding into the sky and we were surrounded by steam and vapour. Shelly and Aaron had to have photo's taken to record the event. Our tour ended near the café where we warmed up on hot chocolate drinks loaded with marshmallows and hot chips.

Next we were off to the Marae for the cultural show and what a treat awaited us. As it is the custom on a Marae we removed our footwear as a sign of respect and went in. We had a great vantage point in front of the stage so we could see all the action close up. We were greeted with a Maori welcome and the show got underway – a selection of Maori songs, including Po Karekareana, the use of Pois and a number of frightening Haka's. The audience roared their approval (especially Aaron should be hired out for these events! Aaron was surely one of the most enthusiastic clappers around. Vicki was transfixed by all the action on the stage and sat there amazed. The show was sadly over too soon, but we took the opportunity to go up on stage and thank the performers as well as have our photo's taken with them.

We had intended to have lunch in the park but the weather had other ideas. We drove out to the Blue and Green Lakes but settled on the lakeside at Okareka. Unfortunately we couldn't venture far because of the rain but that didn't stop the ducks from flocking around the ban waiting expectantly for any titbits which should be thrown out the van's open windows. Glynis got her own back for the van disappearing at the Chateau by leaving Clive at the lakeside – much to the amusement of everyone in the van who thought it was a great joke. With Aaron's hand reaching out of the window to grab Clive's outstretched hand as the van jerked ahead just enough for Aaron's hand not to reach Clive's. The outcome Clive was very wet and we were laughing almost hysterically at the sight of the stranded Clive. With the weather looking pretty murky we visited the Polynesian pools where much to our delight we were offered the use of the family spa area. We enjoyed soaking in the deliciously hot water, Vincent and Mark looked like they were in heaven. Mark floated on his back with a grin from ear to ear. Vicki was feeling very playful, grinning happily she poured water over Glynis's head and tweaked her nose with a mischievous giggle. Linda meanwhile was in the mood for other delights and after surveying the gift shop enjoyed a pot of tea and a scone. After all this relaxation we had to finally head back to Taupo but not before a visit to Pak'n'Save to purchase the night's dinner and Shelly a camera. After the busy day and soak in the tub it wasn't too surprising that it was a quiet drive back to Taupo. We had a brief stop at the magnificent Huka Falls but everyone felt the cold after the baths. We didn't hang around and headed back to camp. Where we tucked into fish cakes and chips while we discussed our day.

Friday saw us busy as bee's eating breakfast, packing the van and cleaning the lodge. Everyone did very well and we were off and away by 8.15 a.m. though some of us could definitely have done with another coffee before we started the day! We were sad to leave our lodge, it served us well and we all decided we would be happy to visit again. But we still had a full day ahead of us, so off we headed around the lake and then north to Waitomo.

Linda was not keen on the caves and so we settled her into the café with a coffee and huge piece of carrot and pineapple cake (verdict – yummy.)

Our guide, Christian, made us feel very welcome and explained about the caves and their rules in easy to understand language which was great. We headed into the caves with everyone being very brave and eager to explore. We were awed by the vaulted caverns, the illuminated shapes and hollows. The caves are very old and formed out of limestone being eroded by water. [We worked our way down the steps into the main cavern where Christian asked for volunteers to sing! The Ranfurly choir had lost its collective voice so we had a beautiful Maori song performed by Christian. We also tried to spot various

outcrops of rock; there was the elephant, the flying Kiwi and Bob Marley's dreadlocks. We then descended to the Waitomo River, which runs through the caves. This area was very dark and quiet and everyone did very well negotiating the steps and getting into the boat awaiting us at the Warf. Christian helped us into the boat and we sat there very quiet so as not to disturb the glow-worms. We drifted off into the caves where the only illumination was the millions of glow-worms; it was a truly breathtaking sight and a wonderful experience. Finally we emerged into the daylight and back into the real world and out of the magical kingdom.

A short bush walk brought us back to the café where we were reunited with Linda and ordered hot chocolates. All this touring is thirsty work!

With the weather going from bad to worse we decided to journey north to Otorohanga where we thought we would visit the kiwi house. Kiwi feeding though coincided with human feelings and the humans in the van voted to have their own lunch! Kiwi feeding will have to be next time around. Al fed and watered we journeyed north with one more stop before Auckland at Candy land. This sweet factory has a big array of goodies but we restricted ourselves to a bag of munchies to eat on the way home.

We arrived at the outskirts of Auckland in a tropical downpour which reduced the traffic to a crawl but thankfully this had ceased by the time we had arrived safely back at Ranfurly.

With the bags unloaded and passengers going in different directions it was the end of our holiday. But wow what a great time we'd had, indeed we had managed mountains, caves good food and lots of laughter. What more could we ask for.





For the end of year staff luncheon we enjoyed a Viaduct Harbour and City Cruise. The cruise around the

inner harbour took in – Maritime Museum, West haven Marina, Amex Cup Village, the Super Yachts and the Harbour Bridge. A light lunch was provided and a licensed bar was available for those who wished to indulge! Friends/families of staff were invited to join us as paying guests.

As we know it never rains but it pours. We were thrilled to receive an ASB grant which allowed us to proceed with the refurbishment at 45 Cornwall Park Avenue.



However once that was underway we discovered that we needed to replace the Ranfurly Road home roof, at a cost of over \$60,000. We were unaware until recently, that the entire roof was quietly rusting away under the paint. We are presently pursuing this with the roofing company. Meanwhile we have buckets placed strategically around the building when it rains.

Cornwall Park news

Les Ambridge, our builder started work at CPA on 23 October 2002. Unfortunately, the October and November weather caused major disruptions to the project and the resident's routine, which tend to dislike any change to their routine. There were initial delays with the glass veranda and spouting as they could not be measured until the steel frames were in place. We moved the residents out for a week to a motel, only to find upon their return that there had been a delay in pouring concrete for the steps and this resulted in another week of camping out. The work is now almost complete. Stainless steel hand rails have been fitted to all the steps to avoid anyone tripping. The garden planting is all underway – it will be started soon now that the weather is more conducive for growth.

The building was painted in February. The Resene consultant recommended a Mediterranean style colour scheme which is very complimentary to the building style. The end result is well worth the disruption that was caused.



Many of you will have met Patricia Matton-Cole who commenced in the role of the Residential Weekend Coordinator/Caregiver from 1 August 2002. She brings a wealth of experience of working with intellectually disabled people –with hand on experience

originates from her time spent with Workforce Industries at their Pinnacle Products division.

Residential News

A friend of Ranfurly collects old fire engines. He very kindly brought one along to our end of the year water fight to the great delight of staff and students alike, who were entertained with American Graffiti music and Gallons of water. Subsequent to this some of the residents visited his Fire Engine Museum, where they saw his collection of antique fire trucks. They were even treated to a ride around Kumeu in one. Several of our residents helped with the Special Olympic street appeal.

The Ministry of Health contract has been renewed for two years taking us through to 30 June 2004. It was great to receive a 1.8% increase; this was the *first increase* since 1996.

During the year our residents enjoyed going to the IMOGA concert, and the production by Diocesan Girls School of the musical *South Pacific*. They enjoyed the musical pantomime called *Aliceter in Wonderland!* They have also been to the movies which included the films *Snow Dogs*, *Whale Rider* and *Country Bears*. Weekend outings have taken them to numerous places all of which have been fully narrated in our Weekend Outing Book, which certainly makes interesting reading! Just some of these outings included Crystal Mountain, visits to the American Cup and village, Blessing of the animals at St Matthew in the City.

This week we started the resident's annual holidays. The first was a camping holiday at Tapapakanga Regional Park. Then they are off to Taupo, Rotorua, Queenstown and Whangaparoa before the end of April.

Staff

In early January Thressiamma Derrick resigned to work in her trained field as a social Worker with long term plans of living in America.

Rachael Stevenson, a part time staff member, was given a two hour orientation finalising her contract and OSH book review etc. on 10 January. Our staff member Kiona Pomare had a baby daughter called Vanessa who was born 12 December. It was good to see her back at work on 20 March.



Activity Centre

Australian Tours bought eleven Korean visitors to take a guided tour through the Activity Centre. They presented us with a memento of appreciation and they took many photos.

Most students enjoyed attending the play "Annie", and the Ellerslie Flower show in November.

Santa visited the Activity Centre on Wednesday, 18 December

There was an innovative Nativity play performed by the students and some items from the fellowship group Te Roopu Kotahitanga followed by a shared barbecue on the 19 December and we closed the Centre on the 20 December. The staff and I had a very successful Development Day on 20 January that provided an opportunity to credit the staff with their 2002 achievements. We addressed all the plans for 2003, life style planning, key persons, job descriptions, covered some housekeeping items, reviewed last year's staff goals and introduced some innovative programmes with appropriate names to match! The staff strategic plan goals set in 2002, were reviewed and the complex timetable of programmes for the first six months of the New Year was completed.

Our students participated by submitting some excellent work in the August Panacea Art Exhibition, held in the BNZ Foyer at the Aotea Centre.



Administration

At the December Small Service Providers meeting, Telarc, HDANZ, John Stacy (EOS) and BVQI provided presentations of their company's services. This was with the view to the commissioning of their services as prospective auditors for the certification of the MOH new statutory standards. Over the last few months I have been heavily involved in MOH assessments for all residents. This was a prelude to their Enhancement project recently introduced by the Ministry of Health. I have attended all these NASC resident's assessments. While time consuming, often three hours for each resident, it has been a positive exercise, enabling us to obtain additional information from families. We have utilised this exercise to restructure our personal care records and staffing procedures. We still have to undertake the 'Timeline's exercises. This is based on recording the actual daily amount of time spent with each resident.

Repairs and Maintenance

In preparation for the 10th anniversary Open Day, we painted much of the interior of the Activity Centre and opened up the hallway space between the two halls.

The side door in the Activity Centre hall has been replaced with a new door and panic bolt. We have fitted a Safe Guard Products security door to the Ranfurly Rd laundry so we can keep it open for circulation during the hot weather but locked for security reasons.

Staff Training

- Talk link, Clicker 4 demonstration and lesson on networking software.
- Drama Therapy application by Tom Cooper and Paula Crimmens held at Youth line Ponsonby.
- Margaret McLean, Auckland College of Education, "Challenging Behaviour".

Jayne and I attended a full day MOH training day on 12 February covering the topics of Quality Plans, Maori Health and Maori Plans and finally Risk Management Plans.



Obituary

Reg Lake, President of the Mentally Handicapped Assoc. and a Ranfurly Guardian Member, passed away on 25 July 2002. Reg has been a close associate for many years – we will miss him.

Our condolences to Jeanette Baalbergen in the recent loss of her husband Pim, a friend to us all.

General

I was so incensed at hearing of a student's misfortune when the family home was burgled while his mum was seriously ill in a hospice, that I phoned the Herald newspaper.

I am pleased to say a lot of good deeds were generated from that one call. Over the next few days the family received over \$2000 in cash and gifts, which included a DVD player and a security alarm system for the family home.

Request from the Activity Centre - We would love a family tent if anyone has one they do not need!

God Bless you all.....from Linda

Keep these dates free

Saturday 5 July Mid Year Christmas Dinner

Saturday 13 September Garage Sale



SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT



YOUTHLINE



SPCA



CORNWALL PARK HOSPITAL



ELIZABETH KNOX HOME



ST VINCENTS de PAUL SHOPPE



COLOUR STEEL

Ranfurly Care

52 - 56 Ranfurly Road, Epsom, Auckland
Phone or Fax 630-3010



December 2003

Christmas Newsletter

**WISHING YOU ALL A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!**



John Singleton Copley, American, 1738–1815 *The Nativity* about 1776
Oil on canvas Museum of Fine Arts, Boston: Ernest Wadsworth Longfellow Fund

Please note, the first and last pages are intentionally 'Back to Back' because of the colour printing. It may appear that we have lost the plot – I assure you we are not quite crazy yet!

Our condolences to Colleen and Chas Watters on the loss of their daughter Janet who died suddenly at Elizabeth Knox home on Sunday 6 April 2003.

Our condolences to Jeanette Baalbergen on the death of her husband Pim in March, a friend of Ranfurly who has been involved with our people through Panacea Arts.

On a much happier note, Felicia Worley was recently married for the first time to her childhood sweetheart, Ian Broadfoot. What was so romantic was that they eloped to marry in Taupo and then had a special service at St. Marks in order that Jocelyn and her friends could celebrate the wedding also.

In many ways it has been a challenging year – but also a very rewarding one – one of attainment in many ways. God Bless You All, **Linda**



Twenty five of the staff enjoying a mid year lunch at McHughes

Dear Friends,

I came across the exquisite painting on the front cover of this Newsletter when I was 'browsing the Internet'. To me it depicts just what Christmas is all about. It was interesting to discover that 'Nativity Scenes' are at the heart of traditional Christian Christmas celebrations in homes and churches in many parts of the world, especially in European countries. St. Francis of Assisi is given credit for popularising the Nativity Scene. Originating in Italy, the idea spread north across the Alps and finally came to the United States with German people who settle there.

Christmas is creeping up on us again, so I will start by reiterating the two events that we invite you to enjoy – *Tuesday 16 December – Bell Ringing Group and Afternoon Tea – starting at 1pm*. This will be a social occasion for everyone – a must to see for those who enjoy music! On *Friday 19 December – The Innkeepers Story – starting at 7.30pm*. Experience this new, greatly anticipated Paul Kelly-Moore Production – a Nativity Play with a difference! Which will be performed by the students and staff at Ranfurly Care.

This is a good opportunity to welcome new Guardian members; Val Hilton, Esther Purkis, Mitre Senth, Sheila Mohandoss, Sue O'Neil, Trevor and Marcia Knight and Ron and Rose Taylor. We would love to see many more of you become members of our Society. Please don't be shy! The AGM is held once a year and the subscription is only \$10 per annum per person. Our Goal for next year is to extend our family. this is how we see ourselves...as a large family! Ranfurly Care is different from other organisations in that all the members of the Executive Committee are family members of service users. In other words, families are in charge, set the policies, make major decisions and oversee the operation other the services.

Congratulations to two of our residents, Stephen Ewart and Geoff Watson who have moved from Cornwall Park to a more independent style living. Stephen is flatting in Mangere and Geoff has gone to greener pastures to live in Kati Kati. Everybody at Ranfurly wishes them both every success and future happiness. A big welcome to our two new tenants at Cornwall Park, Peter Mowday and Carolyn Purkis, and three new Activity Centre students, Gail Witheridge, Judith Witt and Brent Taylor.

It is hard to believe that on 1 July 2003 Cornwall Park had been operating for four years!

Our major objective for 2004 is to obtain our Ministry of Health (MOH) Certification by demonstrating to the auditors (EQS) that we satisfactorily meet all of the required new standards. The requirements are stipulated by the H&DSS (Health and Disability Services (Safety) Act 2001) and are to be met by all service providers. EQS will conduct the Gap Audit on 12 February followed by the full MOH audit on 14 May. Consequently, all current systems and process are being reviewed to ensure they will meet the newly defined specifications. The new statutory standards in the sector to be met are the Health and Disability Sector Standards, Infection Control, Restraint Minimisation and Safe Practice.

Our second audit is for the Activity Centre also early next year. Work and Income has contracted the SAMS agency to complete a three day comprehensive Activity Centre audit. The Ministry of Development conference held in May was most interesting and focused on New Zealand's Public Health and the Disability Act. Par 2, Section 8 of the Act is called Health and Disability Strategies. It requires the preparation of a New Zealand Disability Strategy to provide the framework for the Government's overall direction for the disability sector and for improving disability services. The first Strategy Plan following wide consultation with the disability sector was released in April 2001. It presents a long term plan for changing New Zealand from a 'disabling' into an 'inclusive' society focusing on 'Community Integration' - defined as 'being about people doing ordinary things in ordinary places with everyone else.

The second document we focused on was the Government paper: 'Pathways to Inclusion'. The Government's aim is for disabled people to aspire to a good life along with other New Zealanders. The vision of this strategy is a fully inclusive society.

There was paper and discussion of understanding the (Carver) Principals on 'Policy Based Governance' which incidentally is the method used by the Ranfurly Care Society. The definition is interesting: Policy-based Governance is coherent framework of concepts and principles that are internally consistent as well as powerful in dealing with whatever practical situations arise. It is 'Lay Governed and Driven' and staff operated and managed (Carver). Policy-based governance can provide an optimal structure for anyone who is looking to achieve better results. Board members (and financial members) 'own' the Society however they don't get involved in day-to-day tactical decisions or problems.

The residents/students were invited to the launch of the RIPPLE Trust VIP calendar held at the Centra Hotel in Mangere. Since then, several of the student/residents have attended up to four meetings facilitated by Phillip Paxton and Debbie Mudgway – organised by Barbara Broome. Recognising the value of the student's time and input by attending, all attendees were paid \$50.00 each by way of a voucher of their choice. At the second meeting with Phillip and Debbie the twelve resident/students were given a pictorial version of the NZ Disability Strategy. (Copies are still available at the office). At the conclusion of these four meetings, we met with Phillip and Debbie to discuss and summarise their findings. From the perspective of the people for whom we are responsible (people with intellectual as opposed to physical impairment) – we wanted to understand the purpose of the Ripple Trust and their understanding of the needs of people with an intellectual impairment.

It was an excellent meeting as I feel that Phillip and Debbie are now far more aware of *our people's needs* in that intellectually impaired people have a multitude of special needs and support totally different to people with a physical impairment. It is important that the Disabled Person Assembly (DPA) is aware that they do not have a mandate for all people with a disability. We need to be seen, and the needs of our non-verbal people must be well represented and understood.

Phillip Paxton said that the key to success for the recipient of any service that is offered is *Choice*. In his words – “whether there are 50 beds in a house or it is a 5-room house, if the residents cannot choose, then 5 room houses are just as much an institution. Institutions are not brick and mortar – it is the environment. A one bedroom house can also be an institution if there is no choice about when a person may get up, when they eat, and what they do.”

We learnt from Phillip and Debbie that DEAS (Disability Empowerment Advocacy Support) has a current contract with MOH. The DPA (Disabled Persons' Assembly) recognised the fact that they were unable to represent all disabled people. Therefore, PIASS (Pacific Family Resource Centre), now work through the DPA to identify gaps in services, which could be run by and for disabled people. As part of the evolutionary process the idea originated to write service specifications to specifically operate a service led by disabled people. Consequently, the DEAS agencies were formed and DPA was given the task of setting up 'RIPPLE' to be a generic DEAS service. Each DEAS has two strands: one to provide the DEAS services and the second, to provide quality advice to the Departments of Social Development on funding for disabled services from the perspective of a disable person.

Val Morney recently visited the Activity Centre with a 'People First' advocate, to meet the Activity Centre students. Their mission is to try to recruit new members by presenting a new image of their organisation. The Northern Region of the Small Service Providers continues to meet on a bi-monthly basis enabling us to share our knowledge, help on another, and work together on many issues. Ranfurly Care offers the facility of the Activity Centre Hall to host these meetings. We all appreciate the work done by the chairman Stuart Spackman from Kotuku Trust.

Residential News

Sheridan Barr joined us in November 2003. Sheridan brings a variety of skills that will be very beneficial to Ranfurly Care I have just returned from a week's holiday showing an overseas friend around NZ's beautiful Northland. While I was away, Sheridan spent the week observing each Activity Centre program in order that the Activity Instruction Manual can be updated. This manual illustrated the aim, process and outcome of each class. I now plan for her to do an internal audit of all shifts (at both homes) to evaluate if we measure up to the procedures as dictated in the MOH standards.

I have been working at Ranfurly Care for a month now and thought I would take this opportunity to introduce myself to those of you I have already met. I will be working full time at Ranfurly until February when I return to A.U.T. to complete the third and final year of my Bachelor of Health Science majoring in Occupational Therapy (hooray!). Over the past few years, I have worked part time in a Rest Home organising and facilitating activities and spending one on one time with residents, as well as doing temporary work as a Personal Assistant. In 1998 after graduating from the University of Auckland with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, I embarked on my OE where I spent a memorable two years working in London and travelling in Europe and India before returning home to Kiwi land.

Working at Ranfurly has provided me with a wonderful opportunity to apply and share some of the skills and knowledge I have gained from my studies. Over the past few weeks I have enjoyed participating in some of the exciting classes offered in the activity centre. I have been impressed by the arts and crafts that have been created by some very talented and creative individuals. I look forward to seeing more of both the students and staff talents in the upcoming Ranfurly drama production. It has been a pleasure getting to know students and staff who have been most open and welcoming.

Staff Profile – Jayne Roderick

Hello! My name is Jayne Roderick. I am a trained Psychopaedic Nurse and the Service Coordinator / Caregiver at CPA. Some of you may know me as the lady who drives the funny little snow white car! Born and brought up in Harrow, Greater London, I have chosen to make New Zealand my home for the past 8 years.

I originally qualified after three and a half years of training as a RNMH or Registered Nurse for the Mentally Handicapped twenty years ago – wow, how time flies! My training was considered quite revolutionary at that time because as well as working in the large institutions, we also had placements in a couple of the newly opened group homes. This was the beginning of the closing of all Institutions and opening of smaller group homes, later to be known as De-Institutionalisation in England.

Once qualified I not only worked in the NHS (National Health Service) but also in Social Services, in order to see for myself the spectrum of care that was available. Although I did assist in the removal of 'patient' from Institutions to community settings, and was disillusioned – I felt there must be a better way to care for these people.

Following a three month holiday to New Zealand I returned to England to complete some more studying before deciding to head to New Zealand permanently. During my eight years in New Zealand I decided to steadily work in most areas in order to decide for myself where I feel the happiest. At ACE I gained a Bachelors Degree in Social Services, majoring in Human Services. I have now been at CPA for almost two years and am enjoying the many challenges it presents, as well as the fun times.

Holidays

To summarise this years' holidays, we have taken 32 residents/students on five different trips. They were Taupapakanga Regional Park, Rotorua, Stanmore Bay, Puriri Park Orewa and Taupo. Shirley took two residents to Queenstown for a holiday in April and some of our residents went on Margaret Whitta's 'last' trip to Sydney on 10 to 18 September. A donation from Endeavour Trust and the income received from our short stay residents made these excellent holidays affordable at a cost of \$100 to each resident plus some spending money. Lastly, in November four staff accompanied a group of people for three nights to Papamoa Beach. They stayed at Pacific Christian Holiday Camp.

Sydney 2003 – Memories from Margaret Whitta September 2003

Sydney here we come. Twenty five of us including Pam Barton, Susie Cooke, Joanne Marshall plus Ian and Mrs. Duncan, headed for the Ibis Hotel at Darling Harbour. During the next eight days we did and saw much together.

We rode the Monorail, the ferry and the Aussie Duck (an amphibious sight-seeing vehicle) which was a great highlight. We went to the top of the tower and into the Opera House, visited the Aquarium, visited space in the Imax Theatre and visited the Chinese Gardens. We 'did' the markets, had our photographs taken with a koala bear at the wildlife park and watched a lady sawn in half at wonderland. About the only thing that we didn't see were the Blue Mountains which unfortunately, were covered in mist the day that we visited. The highlight of our trip would have been the stage show 'Mamma Mia' which features the music of ABBA. As with the rest of the audience, we were up clapping and dancing in the aisles. Such an experience! What a shame March 13 came up so quickly and our friendly bus driver Frank arrived to take us to the airport for our trip home. Roll on September 10th for a repeat performance.

General News

Julie Cooke kindly offered to take the Ranfurly Road Residents Meetings that are held two –monthly. Many thanks to Shirley Wensor for her time given as facilitator. It was much appreciated.

Glenda Conway MetLife (through a contact of Phyllis Green) donated \$500 to buy a new stereo system for the home. This is an opportune time to relate the tale of an account that Phyllis posted to us on 14 November that arrived here on 8 December. The envelope was marked 'miss-sent to Great Britain – London Foreign Section'. The AK for Auckland was read as UK!!!

We had a surprise fire drill on 5 September at 7.00am due to an Argentinean Ant infestation (they love electrical wiring) clogging the smoke detector and setting off the alarms. The residents were all out of the building within 3 minutes, which was an excellent result. We had a difficult time getting rid of the pests; we succeeded by dismantling the wire covers and spraying with Ant-Ban!

Thanks to the combined effort of staff and volunteers, we banked a total of \$3,388.00 from the very successful garage sale. Congratulations to all who make this possible!

The ARC has ceased to use the yellow voucher system for Total Mobility concessionary fares. Taxis now use a swipe card system for all concessionary one-off fares. The blue voucher system remains the same.

Many thanks to Pauline, a weekly volunteer who takes two of the student's, one on each alternative week, to Geoff's Emporium where under her guidance they excel in the work that they do.

Following from the inspiration of the February Arts Access Aotearoa Conference 'Celebrating Creative Spaces' we have pursued purchasing the Tone Chimes. The bells in question have a soothing, calming effect as the tone is very soft. Our people would only have to make one slight hand movement to create a sound – they in turn would be directed by a person that only requires a basic musical knowledge. The Auckland City Council Recreation and Community Services provided a grant towards the cost of these bells known as Schulmerich Tone Chimes of 3-octave, 37 notes, manufactured in the U.S.

Arts Access Aotearoa Celebrating 'Creative Spaces' included Ranfurly in the new book 'Creative Solutions and Social Inclusion – Culture in the Community' by Penny Eames. This includes our contribution of the play 'You are Special'. Caresse's Cinderella photo was used in the Arts Access annual report. Congratulations to Paul who received the accolade. He went to the launching of the book celebrating the best of the other seven Arts Access publications that was held at the Grand Hall at Parliament. It was a close call for that family as Paul and Jo Kelly Moore were blessed with the birth of a second son, Nathan born 31 July, the following day!

We are more than happy to take an Auckland College of Education student, Amy Broadmore who is studying a certificate course 'Teaching People with Disability' for terms two and three. Through her special qualities of personal initiative, self-motivation and attitude Amy has developed a natural rapport with the people who use our services.

Several staff attended the Auckland College of Education conference and dinner at Alexander Park. It was also a farewell to Ray Murray CEO, who retired on the 18 July, and a get together for all past and present students who had obtained degrees or diplomas on courses Teaching People with Disabilities.

We were able to help Jeanette Baalbergen take ten students to the Auckland City Council meeting on 10 June when she presented her submission for a creative space for Auckland and the funding of such a centre. It was filmed by the 'Inside Out' team and shown on TV One on 29 June. Jeanette should be congratulated for her tireless voluntary work over many years on behalf of disabled people to establish an art centre for them.

On Saturday 5 July Clive and staff put on their second wonderful mid-year Christmas dinner attended by over 100 people. I might add the dancing to the jukebox music continued into the wee hours of the following morning.

A mid-year Staff Luncheon was held at McHugh's, Cheltenham Beach on 24 July and enjoyed by 26 staff. The Staff Christmas luncheon has been arranged with Sarah Stacey who will provide the catering for Christmas lunch in the Ranfurly Care Hall.

ACTIVITY CENTRE NEWS

We have opened another internet account for the Activity Centre with its own mailbox, set up four new mail boxes for general residential internet use, supplied virus checking and spam filtering for both centres and installed a pornography filter for the Activity Centre. The staff and students alike are enjoying being online. Also this year we have seven students learning English through the Correspondence School.

The Activity Centre enjoyed celebrating 50 years anniversary of Sir Edmond Hillary's conquest of Everest and the Queen's Coronation. The innovative staff even built a mountain for our students to climb!



This year the students have been too many plays and concerts; 'Oliver', the Fred Hollows variety concert at the Bruce Mason theatre, 'Jack and the Beanstalk' and Beauty and the Beast' at Aotea Centre. They went on two different occasions, to the Old Time Variety Concert and sing along at the Mt Albert Community Hall. The Ellerslie Flower Show has become an annual event enjoyed by all.

Recently, Paul kindly donated his precious spare time to facilitate enjoyable bingo and quiz evenings. Both nights provided great opportunities to be entertained and to mix and mingle. Many thanks, Paul!

This year on Wednesday 17 December – the Activity Centre staff are cooking a special Christmas lunch and organising for a visit from Santa. The students will break up on the 22 December and return 20 January 2004. Please note these dates in your diary.

Sadly our student and friend Chris Seabrook died on 9 September 2003 at Auckland Hospital. He is missed by all his friends and staff. We have received very generous donations from the friends and family of Chris. After meetings with Jan, it was decided that a donation of \$250 would be forwarded to Youth line where Chris loved his volunteer work. Jan also requested that we purchase new billiard cues for the Activity Centre, a wall rack and two sets of garden furniture. The billiard cues will bear a commemorative plaque in memory of Chris.

Repairs and Maintenance

We could write a book on the roof incidents that have been recorded. The builders started on the roof 28 May and finished all the flashings etc. the week ending 18 July. The architect Leigh Marshall was appointed as project manager as there were several issues to be addressed with the roof pitch requiring to be increased by 3 degrees to cover any future warranty. We took the opportunity when the roof was off to install or relocate sprinkler heads – and tidied up the telephone wires that were in an incredible mess. We requested a telephone cable plan that will simplify any future telephone faults. The Lion Foundation kindly donated \$30,000 and the Southern Trust at Dunedin granted \$18,804.87. We are very grateful to the Lion Foundation and Southern Trust for their generous donations.

Staff Training

The following courses have been included in our staff training schedule for this year: 15 Week NZ Sign Language Course, OSH and Stress and Fatigue in the Workplace by Paul Jarvie EMA, EQS on Informed Choice, Sexuality and Relationships for People with an Intellectual Disability by Clare Ryan, CPI (Crisis Prevention Training) and the Treaty of Waitangi

Pacific Park Christian Camp at Papamoa

Compiled by Mike Smith

Monday 3 November 2003

Yippee - it's holiday time again! The sun is shining, everybody is excited, and boy – what a lot of suitcases we have. We finally got the van loaded and without hesitation! Devendra, Stephen, Mark, Pam, Philippa, Sasha, Kiona (my right hand lady and myself (the driver) packed into the van. We had the windows of the van tightly shut as the usual tradition at Ranfurly Care had already begun and some of the students who were not going on holiday began to squirt the holiday makers with the hose pipe! The hosing was not restricted to the students – Glynis was more than happy to dowse us with a large bucket of water – which helpfully cleaned the windscreen for us! The rest of the Ranfurly family gave us a great big cheer and suddenly we were off and on our way. Off to a great adventure at the Pacific Park Christian Holiday Camp at Papamoa. We were driving in a 'convoy' as Clive and Tania were driving the other van which was also loaded to the gills with holidaymakers! In this van the travellers were Lex, Susie, Stephen (Collyns), Laan and Bruce.

We all began to sing songs and take in the scenery and the lovely places that we were driving past once we had left the 'big smoke' behind us. The weather was changing now, and rain was definitely on the menu. We all travelled for a few hours and then we decided we would stop at The Karangakake Gorge. At this point the heavens opened and we all ran inside the toilet that was there to escape the rain. We started off again and drove for a short while. We had arrived at Waihi and we decided that we would go and have a nice refreshing coffee and scone at a very nice coffee lounge called the Copper Kettle Café. Once refreshed and rested it was time to take the final leg of our journey. Hardly before we knew it we were in Tauranga and we could see the sea. The excitement in the van was increasing as we saw the sign post that directed us to Papamoa! Another twenty minutes and we were eventually at our destination. Everybody cheered loudly – 'yes we are finally here'. The key turned off the engine of the van which fell silent at last. Everyone piled out of the van with anxious anticipation, but to our great delight the accommodation was superb. Everyone got stuck in and we got the beds made, treated ourselves to a refreshing cup of tea and we were then able to relax and start our holiday. There was however still a few things that we had to do before we could settle in for the night. So it was back in the vans and off to the 'Mount'. We had a little 'cruise' around town – taking in our new surroundings and then Clive went off to do some important grocery shopping for us. The rest of us had a walk around Bay Fair shopping centre which we enjoyed as it was a very nice place.

Back at the Ranch... *Clive took the order for fish and chips for our dinner that night – a nice easy meal for our first night - boy did they taste nice! After dinner everyone was pretty pooped it had been a long day so it was shower and pajama time! By 9 pm everyone was ready for bed but it was time for a drink of Milo and biscuits for everyone before they retired to bed – no peace for the wicked! We watched TV for a short while, and then cleaned our teeth and it was off to bed. What an exhausting day – but it had been fun! See you tomorrow – goodnight.*

Tuesday 4 November 2003

Good Morning! It is six o'clock in the morning and some of us are already up – with a coffee and a prayer to start the day. The troops are beginning to surface and we have our busiest day ahead of us so we all have a really good breakfast. Once everybody's needs were taken care of (and I had a quick shower) we were all in the van again and heading off to Rotorua. It was a nice journey and it only took us about an hour to get there. Three or four kilometers out of Rotorua the 'sulphur smell' hit us and we all held our noses. We found the place that we were looking for. Te Whakarewarewa Thermal Village. As we got out of the van the sulphur now smelt quite strongly and it took us a little while to adjust to the strong smell. Once we were inside the compound Kiona quickly got busy with her video camera and I was taking lots of still photographs. When we arrived we were given maps of the area and what there was to see there. The first place that we decided to visit was the Greenstone Shop. We saw the necklaces and the jewellery that were the end product of the intricate carvings. We saw firsthand these

skilled craftsmen busy at their work and the nice of their cutters grinding the stone almost felt as if it were going through us. It reminded us a bit of the sound you here when you are at the dentist so we did not hang around that workshop for too long – despite it being a very interesting place.

In the halls we saw glass cases displaying Maori weapons and there were Maori carvings on the walls. The next stop was to the wood carving workshop. There were about half a dozen men working at their benches – each creating masterpieces from just ordinary pieces of wood. . We were al very quite as we watched the men working – we did not want to disturb them as just one slip of their hand (if they were distracted)would ruin an intricate piece of work. Outside again we spotted a Maori Canoe, and the Maori Village and we watched as we were shown how a hangi was prepared and cooked. We saw a bird suspended in the trees. We then all ventured into the Bird House which was pitch black as we left the daylight behind us. When our eyes adjusted we quickly saw that behind the glass screen there was a Kiwi foraging for food. In this artificial light the bird understood it to be night time – this is because the Kiwi is a nocturnal bird and only comes out at night. As we left the Bird House we spotted the boiling bubbling mud and incidentally the largest natural geyser in New Zealand. It has been named the Pohutu Geyser. We thoroughly enjoyed all of this but the highlight of our visit must have been the Maori Concert which was held in the Rotowhio Marae. Fantastic!

Time for a quick coffee before we leave Te Whakarewarewa and we are then off to the Agradome!

The weather had really improved and the day was warming up nicely. Most of us had stripped down to our tee-shirts and we were ready to have our packed lunch which Clive had kindly made for us all the previous night. We were now near a place called Ngongotaha - The Agradome. When we first arrived we walked over to the Chocolate Shop and sampled their chocolate – very nice! We then went and looked around the Paua Shop which contained some gorgeous shells. The big attraction though was of course the big woolly sheep and the impending demonstration of the skills of the dogs and the handlers! The sheep dogs demonstrating their skills are certainly great family entertainment! When the show had finished we went and looked at the donkey and pony that also lived there. We saw a helicopter take off – presumably taking a tourist for a sightseeing tour.

The journey back took us about one and a half hours as we took the direct route to Tauranga instead of the Papamoa route. But this was to our advantage as the road was very scenic. When we all arrived back we were all ready to have a very nice hot spa! We had a nice meal which consisted of sausage casserole and afterwards had some bakewell tart and ice cream. Then there were chores that needed doing. Soon it was time for a bit of TV viewing while people were having their showers and getting into their pyjamas. We rounded off our day by having our usual hot Milo and biscuits. What a busy day we have had – it has been great fun, but everyone is now really exhausted – so off to bed. “Good night John boy!” Good night all!

Wednesday 5 November 2003

The birds are singing and the sun is shining – our holiday makers are still in bed as it is only six o clock – but they will not be for long! Breakfast is underway –toast cereals, hot drinks it is going to be a busy day and we are all eager to be on our way but we must not miss having something to eat before we go. Showers attended to and we are all ready to go. Today the group is off to Te Puke – we are going to see ‘Kiwi Fruit Country’. It was only an hour’s drive from us and the weather was hotting up, so we all slip slop, slapped and pulled on our sun hats for protection and off we went. We were all very excited as the first thing we want to do is to g on a train ride around the kiwi farm. The carriages of the train looked like little hamburgers! The tour of the farm was thrilling and very educational. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. It was time to have walk awe went off to visit a fair and a fairy castle which stood on a hill. The castle had distorted mirrors and we had great fun looking into them and seeing our distorted shapes! We did all look so funny. Just around the corner from the castle was a huge dragons head. I climbed into its mouth and the gang all laughed at my antics!

Again we took plenty of Photographs and video footage. One thing that really caught our attention was an amazing pond with water gushing from taps that appeared to be suspended in mid air – what a fantastic illusion! We had hot chips and vanilla cake on the balcony of the restaurant – which was set in a beautiful position - amongst punga trees, ferns and native bush – New Zealand at its very best. The time was bobbing on so we were off again heading back to Papamoa Beach. The beach is set on a piece of coastline that stretches for miles with glorious sand and a bright blue sea. We ate our lunch which we had packed and taken with us and decided it might be a good idea to go off for a beach walk. By this time we were all getting pretty tired so we had a quick vote and we decided that we would go back and have a relaxing afternoon. The other team (Clive and Tania’s group) came back from their adventure and

we had our dinner – chicken with rice and fresh asparagus that we had bought fresh at the side of the road. We finished off with a dessert of mouse, Bakewell tart and ice cream. We all had a great time at the dinner table that night everyone was very happy. It was now time for the chores to be done and before we knew, it was eighty thirty and we could hear fireworks going off in the distance. We all watched out of the windows as the night sky lit up with their colour. We had all finished our hot Milo's and so we toddled off in our pyjamas to bed. We all wished each other "Good Night".

Thursday 6 November 2009

Our last day at Papamoa, the sun was up early and so were we, as we all had a lot to do on this our last morning. Clive 'the chef' cooked a full breakfast for us all – scrambled eggs, bacon, hash browns and baked beans. This was all washed down with a hot tea or coffee. Next it's all hands on deck for the showers, and the packing and cleaning up our accommodation begins. We really are determined that we will leave it looking nice – the way we found it.

Soon we were on our way and heading toward Tauranga – we had decided that we would drop Lex off at his mum's place! Then we were off again this time to an historic village. It was just like we were going back in time – with all the old buildings and little streets.

We went inside a very old church – circa 1860 and read the inscription on the walls. These referred to the 'Rules of Engagement' in the Maori Wars. We also visited the soldier's grave stones and read their inscriptions too.... They were just young men with ages ranging from just seventeen years old to the oldest – only thirty three years old. This place was well worth the visit. We were then off again, this time stopping at Wahl to look at the Martha Gold Mine. What a huge hole had been dug out of the earth here!

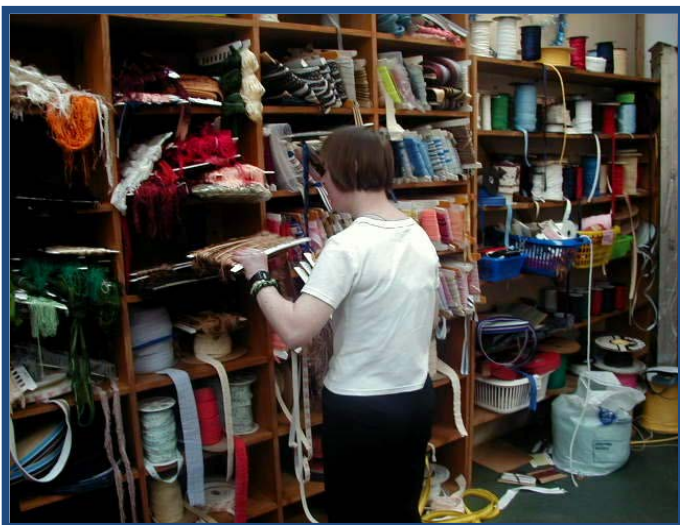
The giant caterpillar- like trucks which were used to transport the earth looked just like ants from a distance as we stood at the top of the mine gazing into it. Soon it was back again to the van and we were off again.

We stopped off at the Karangahape Gorge for our lunch- with the river meandering below. The sun was shining and it was our last stop before we headed back to Auckland.

We really did appreciate God's creations and we took some more 'photo's that we could show back at Ranfurly. We all had mixed feelings about returning as we had all had such a good time and we had 'gelled' as a group and as another extension of the Ranfurly family.

But hey...there is always next year and we can do it all over again.....Thanks everyone for a great holiday

The BEFORE AND AFTER sorting the ribbons at Geoff's Emporium

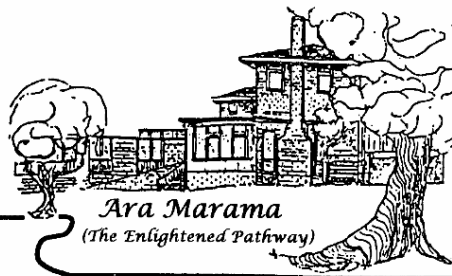




Mid Year Christmas dinner and Papamoia Holiday

Ranfurly Care

52 - 56 Ranfurly Road, Epsom, Auckland
Phone or Fax 630-3010



NEWSLETTER for November 2004

**Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas
and a Happy and Prosperous New Year!**



**From the Ranfurly Residents, Students,
Executive, Staff and Management
November 2004**

As I wrote recently in this year's AGM annual report, 2004 has been a year of constant change, one of joy and sadness, greetings, goodbyes, fun and laughter. To celebrate the 2004 year this newsletter will focus on snap shots of the special highlights the residents and students have enjoyed during the year.....This is a pictorial journey.....Enjoy

It has been a very busy year and as you can see, will be to the end of year. The Activity Centre will not be holding a special evening this year due to organising so many other special occasions we have all enjoyed including the very successful midyear dinner and our own ball featuring the Arabian Night theme complete with entertainment from a troupe of belly dancers!

We would love to see all of our families and friends on 20 December at 1.00pm for an afternoon tea of Mince Pies after enjoying Christmas Music, Carols, and the opportunity to say au revoir to Paul.

11 November -	Wizard of Oz Party – Birthday celebration for Karl's 40th birthday
15 November	Bruce Mason Theatre - Naval band – Morning Melodies for students
23 to 26 Nov	Resident's Stanmore Bay Holiday – Mike and Sara accompany six people
25 November	Wizard of Oz – Aotea Centre 27 students attending
26 November	Cornwall Park staff taking residents to the Ellerslie Flower Show
7 December	Mt. Albert Variety Lunch/Concert – 45 people going from the Activity Centre
14 December	Students Christmas Lunch/Santa/Kapa Hapa Group/Didgeri Doo (12.00)
17 December	Staff Christmas Luncheon
20 December	Families and friends are invited on 20 December at 1.00pm to a Christmas Music/Social for Christmas Carols,
21 December	Water Fight for some students and staff (a bit of fun not compulsory!!)
22 December	Students Finish Today (Wednesday 3.30pm)
23 December	Staff day – Timetable/shared Lunch Clean Up if necessary

Ranfurly Activity Centre will be closed for summer holidays and will re open *with just partial staffing on Monday 17 January 2005*. In addition to this Thursday 20 and Friday 21 January 2005 – have been set aside as staff planning days (for the year ahead). The two Ranfurly homes will keep their people home on these two days, and we would appreciate if only families who are working would send their students to the centre.

This year has also been the year of audits, a day of pre audit with EQC contracted by the Ministry of Health (MOH) on 12 February and final EQC audit for Certification on 26 August 2004. The Ministry of Social Development (the MSD) contracted SAMS (Standard and Monitoring) to audit the Activity Centre. McCallum Petterson Financial Intelligence Specialists were contracted to complete a financial audit for all service providers. Finally there was the annual Gilligan Sheppard financial Society audit. We are thrilled that all the hard work has culminated in receiving the certification for three years. As the auditors quoted at a further training day “like rust the work must go on”.

A note from Paul...

Well, what do you know? Jo and I arrived in Auckland in Feb '97 without a home, without an income and without children! We are now in our seventh home, we both have jobs and we have two great little lads in Adam and Nathan. Since Jo took on the full-time position of vicar at St Aidan's (in August) we have realised that the demands of her work and our boys combined are huge. Jo and I haven't shared a regular day off for 3½ years and we feel that we definitely need to. So I will stop working at the Activity Centre on December 21st this year. In 2005 I will continue taking a group of residents to their Special Olympics ten-pin bowling league in Henderson.

It's been a privilege to be part of the Ranfurly Activity Centre team and I am grateful to Linda, students, colleagues and all family and friends connected to this special place for many things. Thank you for all of the encouragement and support given to me throughout my time here and I am greatly blessed by the many friendships made. I feel confident to be leaving a positive mark on the place and, if nothing else, have educated many to the highs and lows of being an Arsenal fan! No doubt I will continue to be seen in and around the place and look forward to us catching up from time to time. I wish you all well, Paul.

A note from Val...

Hi, my name is Val Hilton and I have been employed with Ranfurly Care for the past 6 months as Quality Assurance Person.

I am an enrolled nurse and spent many years working in hospitals until I stopped work to have a family, I have 3 children, and my daughter Rachel attends the Activity Centre every day.

I have spent the last 15 years working in Special Education in a unit for children with disabilities.

My interests are gardening, crafts, computer, photography and in the short time that I have been at Ranfurly I have found the staff and residents to be very welcoming and accommodating, and will look forward to applying my acquired skills to the enhance the current programmes that are already available.

A tribute to dear Cresse, Lou and Jocelyn, whom we thank for the gift of friendship, love and inspiration you, gave us all. You were indeed all special people – we miss you all dearly.....

Blessings in Disguise

*God sends his 'little angels' in many forms and guises,
They come as lovely miracles that God alone devises-
For He does nothing without purpose, everything's a perfect plan
To fulfil in bounteous measure – all he ever promised man –
For every 'little angel' with a body bent and broken
Or a little mind retarded, or little words unspoken,
Is just God's way of trying to reach and touch the hand?
Of all who do not know Him and cannot understand
That often through an angel who's "wings will never fly"
The Lord is pointing out the way to His eternal sky
Where there will be no handicaps of body, soul or mind
And where all limitations will be dropped and left behind
So accept these 'little angels' as gifts from God above
And thank him for this lesson in Faith and Hope and Love*

To all you wonderful people out there that I have had the pleasure to meet I would like to finish with some words from an article in the Herald by Dr John Langley the Dean of Auckland University.

” Being a parent (or caregiver) is not easy under any circumstances and being the parent of a person with severe or profound disabilities (or other disability) takes something in the nature of superhuman effort.

To those involved the road must look like an endless road, the fact so many walk that road daily makes them some of society's heroes.

They get little recognition for their effort, all too few resources and, often, precious little support.

Yet they do it. Why. Because there is something universally precious about our children, regardless of whom they are or what level of ability.

They bring out the best and worst in us, the most joy and the most sadness, the most pride and most frustration.

That is why”.

Once again, thank you to all those who have supported us by your thoughts, words, and deeds or by financial assistance, God bless you all

Linda







2004 Caresse's Special Disney day



Special People a poem for Caresse

Special people are those who have the ability to share their lives with others,

They are honest in word and deed,

They are sincere and compassionate,

They always make sure that love is a part of everything.

Special people are those who have the ability to give to others and help them with the changes that come their way.

They are not afraid of being vulnerable; they believe in their uniqueness and are proud to be who they are.

Special people are those who allow themselves the pleasures of being close to others and caring about their happiness.

They have come to understand that love is what makes the difference in life.

Special people are those who truly make life beautiful.

Dear Caresse our little ray of sunshine thank you for the love and inspiration you gave us all.

THE BALL

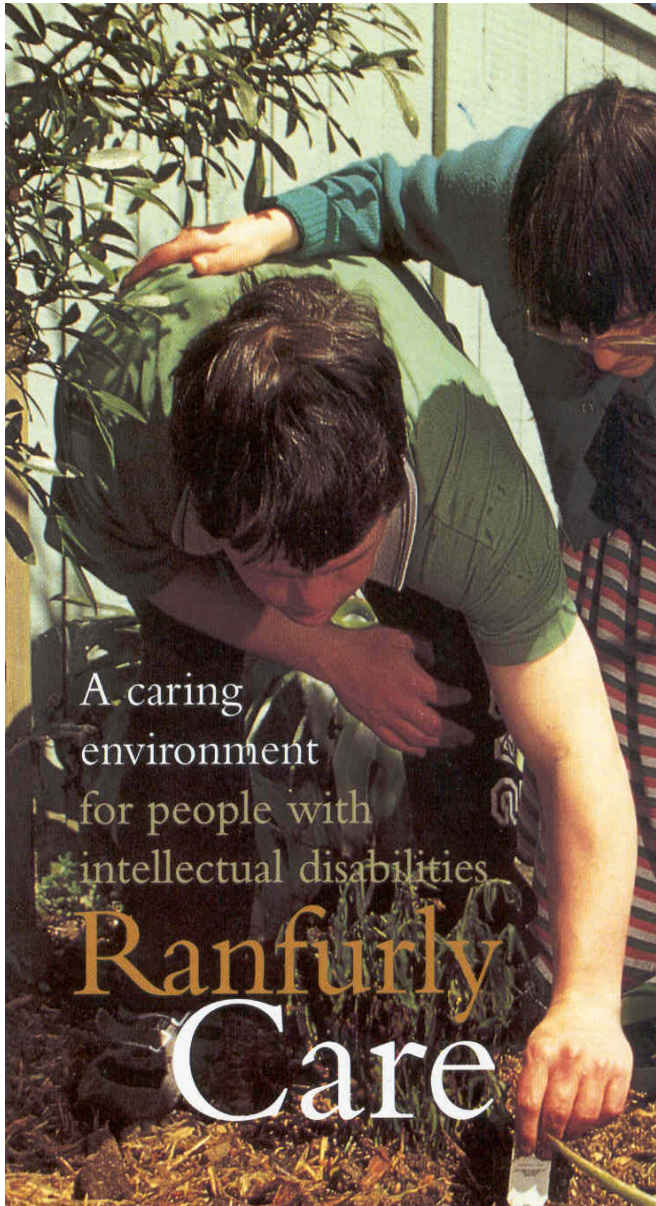


Ranfurly Care

52 - 56 Ranfurly Road, Epsom, Auckland
Phone or Fax 630-3010



NEWSLETTER 2005



HAPPY NEW YEAR in the

Chinese Year of the Rooster.

This is an important message to all our members and family and friends of Ranfurly.

We were founded by a group of committed parents, most of whom go back to the time before there was an IHC Society, and who experienced the frustrations of forming a society and then seeing it "captured" by a government bureaucracy.

That is our heritage as a society but we are now at risk of losing it. The on-going success of Ranfurly in its present form depends absolutely on the future support of our Ranfurly family. Without the commitment and the day-to-day involvement of our families we are just another well intentioned care provider.

This is a cry for help – we are a society in transition.

Our original members are getting past it. Many are no longer with us. We need the families of our current students and residents to support our society and we need you to get involved.

We need members who are prepared to serve on the executive. This is not a demanding role. We meet monthly and we are blessed to have Linda as our manager. I know there are brothers and sisters and extended family members with a range of skills and experience that would be of great value to Ranfurly.

It's time for you to get involved – we need your help.
Ross Green, President

Time moves on, as you will appreciate from Ross's message, there is a need for younger people to become involved alongside the original families who were involved in Ranfurly's establishment. When things are going according to plan it is easy for people to sometimes forget just how important volunteers are to an organisation like ours, which is non-profit and family based.

We have been fortunate with our staff and volunteers over the years, who have worked hard to foster a Ranfurly Care Workplace Culture by organising Garage Sales, Outings (last year's Round the Bays), Dinners & Quiz nights etc. These events require time and support to organise. To those friends who have unfailingly supported us over the years I would like to extend to you a sincere thank you for all you have done.

Some FIFTY plus families use our day care facility, we have TWENTY NINE residents, and some THIRTY families use our respite care facility. I would have greater confidence in the successful future of

Ranfurly Care if I knew that our student's families were Society Members and supporting us in a voluntary way – if only just a few hours of your time each year!

We include a portion with this letter which you can return, advising us if, during the coming year you would be willing to offer a few hours work when Ranfurly organises a big event? We envisage we could send out a list of the type of help required (if the need occurs to call on volunteers). Your help would be appreciated. It lessens and spreads the work load - "many hands make light work". Alternatively you may contact me direct on 630 3010.

- Maybe there is someone out there who could help co-ordinate a family/volunteers group on these occasions? This need not take an inordinate amount of time.
- Maybe during the week you have the time to take a student to a work venue and maybe stay to support them? (Increasingly Government Policy will be directed to getting people into paid/voluntary work) and Ranfurly needs to meet this challenge).
- Do you know of people in the community who would be prepared to offer paid/voluntary work to one of our students?

We need to always remember that Ranfurly Care is *different* from other larger organisations in that all the members of the Executive Committee are family members of service users. In other words, families are in charge, set the policies, make major decisions and oversee the operation of the services. Our goal is that we want to continue this - far into the future.

GARAGE SALE 2005 – Will definitely be on Saturday 16 April 2005. Volunteers are essential to help with smooth running of this major fundraiser. To ensure that the normal programme can continue to run this year at the Activity Centre, we would like volunteers to come in through the week prior to the sale. During the previous weekend we will need a group of strong men to help move the given goodies from the garage to the hall. Please contact Clive if you can help on Ph 630 4108 or AH/ Ph 4895165 advising what time you would be available. Remember this is Ranfurly's major fundraiser. Past years have seen us purchase our large TV, computers and other equipment which would not have been possible otherwise.

MID - YEAR DINNER – Saturday 9 July 2005 Escape the winter blues and come and party. Due to demand in previous years, tickets @ \$5 are now available and are limited to 100 tickets. These will be sold on a first in first served basis. The format will include food for a shared meal, entertainment, Santa (hopefully) and a jukebox for those who want to dance the night away. Contact Ranfurly Activity Centre Ph 6304108

QUIZ FUN NIGHT – Friday 19 August 2005

Come and get those brain cells working and help raise funds for our World Vision Sponsorship.
\$5 ticket and a plate to share.

How time flies! It will be Easter before we know it. The Activity Centre reopened Monday 17 January after the Christmas break. This year we came back a week earlier to assist working families and the difficulties encountered of a longer holiday. The first week staff participated in a very productive Development Day. Amongst many other things we finalised the Activity Centre timetables that incorporated additional new activities. In December we gave all students the opportunity to choose which group they would prefer to enable that information to be taken into consideration when finalising the timetable. As you can appreciate it is a marathon job to accommodate all 50 students into their preferred sessions.

I would like to welcome three new students and their families to the Centre, Daniel Baal, Warren Challinor and Filia Solomona.

Joy is supervising the 'Senior Group' which is located in the now vacant New Tribes office in the lower driveway. The programme is working well in this attractive environment with students able to join with all their other regular timetable activities, including communication. The 'Studio' as named by Joy is situated in an ideal location with a pleasant outlook over the park.

I would like to welcome three new staff members to the Society. We were fortunate to have a high calibre of people apply for our three vacancies and very happy that they are part of the team. Sinead Leonard has been appointed as a Residential Caregiver – with duties in both Ranfurly Road and Cornwall Park Avenue. Sinead is a lovely young woman on a working holiday from Ireland and is already proving to be very popular with both staff and residents alike! She has completed a three year nursing course and received her Diploma in Disability Nursing in 2003. She has had two years experience as a Care Assistant for people with intellectual disabilities and one year's experience (working as a Staff Nurse) with people who have challenging behaviour.

Thomas Komurka has been appointed to teach the Computer Skills Course at the Activity Centre. He comes to us with a wealth of experience from working for the past six years with special needs people in Austria (his place of origin), France, Australia and New Zealand. From the variety of positions he has held in both, 'live- in 'situations to 'disability centre's he has developed a "diverse range of knowledge and skills". He has achieved diplomas in each of the countries he has worked and he comes with good references from his previous employers. Some of his family is now domiciled in the South Island, but Thomas prefers the opportunities that Auckland can offer!

Brett Ihaka has joined the Activity Centre staff for just two days each week - predominantly to promote the dramatic talents of our students! He will run a program for the keep- fit enthusiasts. He also brings with him an extremely diverse experience of life. His accomplishments are too many to record here but include Fully Trained City & Guilds Chef, three years with the British Army – 10th Battalion Parachute Regiment. He has worked as Court Administration Assistant, Police Volunteer and Security Consultant. He is a Freelance Screenwriter, Actor and Poet having currently written two short films for the New Zealand Film Commission. Both films were selected for international festivals. He is currently writing a short film and feature funded by the Commission. It will be an interesting year for our students as he is now working with the students on the production MacBeth Ranfurly style.

Macbeth by William Shakespeare As performed by the Ranfurly Theatre Players 2005

This year, 2005, the Ranfurly Theatre Players will be performing William Shakespeare's play "Macbeth". It is an exciting and active play with Witches, Kings, Queens, Knights, swordfights, thunder and lightning. Rather than medieval text, dialogue will be easily understandable and contemporary, although the theme of traditional Shakespeare will prevail. The play will consist of two acts (each thirty minutes) that will encapsulate the main elements of the story.

During the year, we shall learn more about Shakespeare himself and the very interesting period he lived in (1564 to 1616) This Medieval theme will also interact with other activities at the Ranfurly Centre such as art, quiz time, puppets, music, dance, audiovisuals and perhaps a themed day with all the students and staff participating as the Court of Queen Elizabeth the 1st (1558 to 1603) There may also be the opportunity to visit a theatre play.

Our approach to the play will be with a very realistic style of acting. Everyone shall immerse himself or herself in the story and characters to enable them to discover an inner emotion that will give their character an individual life of their own, hence, *who they are as individuals* will reflect in the character they shall be. There will be no specific 'acting' requirements. We shall structure the play *around the students to fit the students*, which allows *everyone* to take part if they wish.

This natural form of acting also gives rise to confidence, which is a great builder of esteem and well-being. As we work together during the year, each student will be given the opportunity to present a small theatre work as an individual. This may be a sonnet, a poem or perhaps a song with a medieval theme. Creating a repertory also assists in the students working together as a team to share ideas and feelings. Along the way we shall also present small, one act plays with simple structures. This will assist in getting the actors used to being 'on the stage' and performing in front of an audience. Obviously, through the year, the workshop participants will change dependent upon interest and desire. However, it will be our goal to include *everyone* in some way. With the many talented and skilled people we have here at Ranfurly Care, I have no doubt we shall present an innovative and exciting end of year play in the spirit of Shakespeare himself!

Jules Allen who worked here in 1996/7 is now a qualified art teacher who is doing her master's degree in art this year. We are thrilled she is able to enthuse our students in two art classes each Monday. The resident's annual holiday plans are underway at a variety of venues, Lake Taupo, Mahurangi East, Queenstown, Christchurch and Whangaparoa.

During the New Year we have been involved in a renovation project at Cornwall Park. I might add the area has been totally transformed much to the delight of the staff and residents. To completely utilise the Cornwall Park community area we have removed two dividing walls in order to create a larger brighter living area that will combine two lounges, provide a small kitchen and include three bathrooms (including one with a bath). This will enable us to provide accommodation for mixed sexes to share a larger recreational/community area. Our experience has shown that only a couple of our residents prefer to stay alone in their units, most residents enjoy being in the company of their peer group.

Vehicles

We took delivery of our new 2005 air-conditioned, petrol, Hiace from Albany Toyota. Sincere thanks to

the Royal Oak Trust donation of \$36,864.00 which we received 21 December 2004.
I trust you will enjoy the news and photos

Kind regards

Linda

Enclosed is part of Ruth Dyson's 2005 Newsletter 'Participate.'

Employment for disabled people is a key priority through implementation of Pathways to Inclusion, repeal of legislation that exempts sheltered workshops from minimum wage and holiday act requirements, and changes to sickness and invalids benefits.

Other developments include a bill to recognise New Zealand Sign Language as our third official language; our active involvement in developing a United Nations convention for disabled people; and initiatives to improve the health and well-being of older people.

This issue of Participate also outlines a number of important disability research projects, and highlights successes for disabled people in both local government and private sector organisations.

Following the Cabinet reshuffle just before Christmas, I no longer have responsibility for older people's health issues and disability support services run by the Ministry of Health. This portfolio is now held by Pete Hodgson. However, as the Minister for Disability Issues, I maintain a keen interest in all areas that affect disabled people.

I want to thank you for your support, and assure you of my ongoing commitment to advocate on your behalf around the Cabinet table and in the wider community to create a fully inclusive society.

Hon Ruth Dyson Employment for disabled people is a key priority through implementation of Pathways to Inclusion, repeal of legislation that exempts sheltered workshops from minimum wage and holiday act requirements, and changes to sickness and invalids benefits.

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Hon Ruth Dyson

International Disability Arts Festival

28 February – 6 March 2005, Performing Arts Centre TAPAC, Western Springs, Auckland. Giant Leap is New Zealand's first International Disability Arts Festival. It will feature the best, professional disabled talent from New Zealand alongside top overseas performers in a feast of events – from deaf theatre and mixed ability dance to storytelling, comedy and music. More information: <http://www.giantleap.org.nz>

First Carer Summit

17-18 March 2005: Te Papa, Wellington This two-day summit has been organised by the new Carer Alliance for all of those who support families and whanau to celebrate the unique voice of carers, hear about significant policy and service directions, and discover new ways we can work together to 'care for the carers'. More information:

<http://www.carers.co.nz/summit> How to get Participate.

Dressing the Ranfurly 'Christmas Tree' in Aotea Centre – an annual event for a few years



THE HAPPY BOWLERS, Gerard, Brent, Anne, Bruce, Joanne and Peter



Photos from the Garage Sale – thank you helpers for a hard working fun day



Intellectually Impaired Actors Stage Complex Theatre

A theatre company of intellectually impaired actors is putting on plays that prove challenging even for most able bodied actors to sell out audiences. The Ranfurly Players is a theatre repertory led by director

Brett Ihaka (already a promising film maker – his short film *The Platform* was selected for the Sundance Film Festival and is one of the few NZ short films to ever make their money back.) The Repertory was formed in 2005 at the Ranfurly Care Society in Auckland under the guidance of Ihaka. It is the only theatre Repertory of its kind in New Zealand showcasing the acting skills of those with intellectual impairments and disabilities.

When told intellectually impaired actors could not perform complex theatre like ‘Macbeth’ and ‘The Hounds of the Baskervilles’ and should attempt something simpler, Ihaka disagreed. He set about rehearsing the actors in such a way that they could tackle these difficult projects successfully. The Actors rehearse, learn dialogue, stage movement, improvisation and bring to the stage their own unique skills and talents which fosters a great spirit of independence. All actors are included in the performances regardless of ability – even if that means doing things a little differently i.e. In *The Hounds of the Baskervilles* there were two Doctor Watson’s – one in a wheelchair. Every performance is unique and full of surprises – how the story will turn out nobody knows as the actors take the lead. It is a challenging process for all involved but the results have been remarkable and elicited profound changes in the lives of both actors and their parents.

This would make a really interesting and unique human interest story showing that people should never be underestimated no matter what life has thrown at them. It is an inspirational lesson for us all. No other media (apart from a program for disabled people, which covered the performance last year) has ever covered this story. The performances are being held on Nov 15 and 16 but you may also be interested in filming some background footage of preparations and rehearsals.

Ranfurly Players Present
Their Production of
MacBeth
by William Shakespeare



Thursday 8th & Friday 9th December 2005 at 7.00 pm
Ranfurly Activity Centre 52-56 Ranfurly Road, Epsom







MacBeth

Written by William Shakespeare between 1601 and 1608 the 'Tragedy MacBeth' was an adaptation of Raphael Holinshed's Chronicles which outlined a part of Scottish affairs, both historical and imaginary. MacBeth was the commander of the forces of Duncan, King of Scotland whom he slew, and whose kingdom he took in 1040. MacBeth was defeated and slain by Malcolm III, at Cammore, Scotland in 1057. MacBeth has all the prophecies of doom, betrayal, guilt, madness, tyranny, revenge and death. It is commonly referred to as the most bloody of Shakespeare's plays. The Ranfurly Theatre Players have been rehearsing their version of 'MacBeth' through 2005. The play has been adapted to their wide ranging abilities and encompassing all that the action imply. It should be noted that the Ranfurly Theatre Players were encouraged to freely improvise their parts and to bring to it their own interpretation whilst still remaining truthful to all the classical elements of the story. It was of course a great challenge, but the Ranfurly Theatre Players responded with passion and enthusiasm. They proudly present 'MacBeth'.

Synopsis

The wicked witches appear and foretell the coming of MacBeth, a general in Duncan's army. MacBeth and his generals Malcolm and MacDuff fight in a furious battle that leaves the captain wounded. MacBeth takes his army back to the castle in victory. The dying captain tells King Duncan of MacBeth's bravery. King Duncan looks forward to meeting MacBeth. The evil witches appear and tell a disbelieving MacBeth that he shall be king. MacBeth sends a letter to his wife, Lady MacBeth telling her of the witches vision. Lady MacBeth conspires to take the crown from King Duncan. MacBeth meets his wife and she gives him a dagger to murder King Duncan. MacBeth refuses but the witches appear and tempt him. MacBeth meets with King Duncan and overcomes with greed for power - cuts his throat. At a banquet to celebrate MacBeth as King, the ghost of Duncan appears and terrifies MacBeth. MacBeth laments what he has done. The witches appear and tell MacBeth that he will die. MacBeth refuses to believe - he is King. Lady MacBeth, overcome with guilt at what she has directed her husband to do begins to go mad. Malcolm and MacDuff plot revenge against MacBeth for the death of King Duncan. Malcolm fights MacBeth in a terrific swordfight with everyone watching at the castle. Malcolm chops off MacBeth's head. A general tells of better times to come. The witches appear and end the tragedy of MacBeth.

Cast of Players

 King Duncan Played by Peter Mowday	 The Captain Played by Ryan Tarlton
 MacBeth Played by Murray Nash	 Lady MacBeth Played by Bobbie Carter
 Malcolm Played by Filia Solomona	 Lady Duncan Played by Anne Johnston
 MacDuff Played by Brent Taylor	 Lady in Waiting Played by Vicki Cross
 Lennox Played by Tony Bennett	 Lady in Waiting Played by Phillippa Hall
 MacKnight Played by Gerard Kiely	 Lady in Waiting Played by Carolyn Purkis
 Messenger Played by Andre Pascal	 Menteith Played by Matthew Ashby


Ranfurly Players Present Their Production of

"MacBeth"

by William Shakespeare.

This is the tale of MacBeth, a General of the Scottish Army who murders his King (Duncan) the behest of his power seeking wife, Lady MacBeth. Becoming King, MacBeth rules as a vicious bloody tyrant. Consumed by guilt Lady MacBeth descends into insanity and commits suicide. In a terrific swordfight MacBeth is slain by Malcolm, the Son of Duncan.

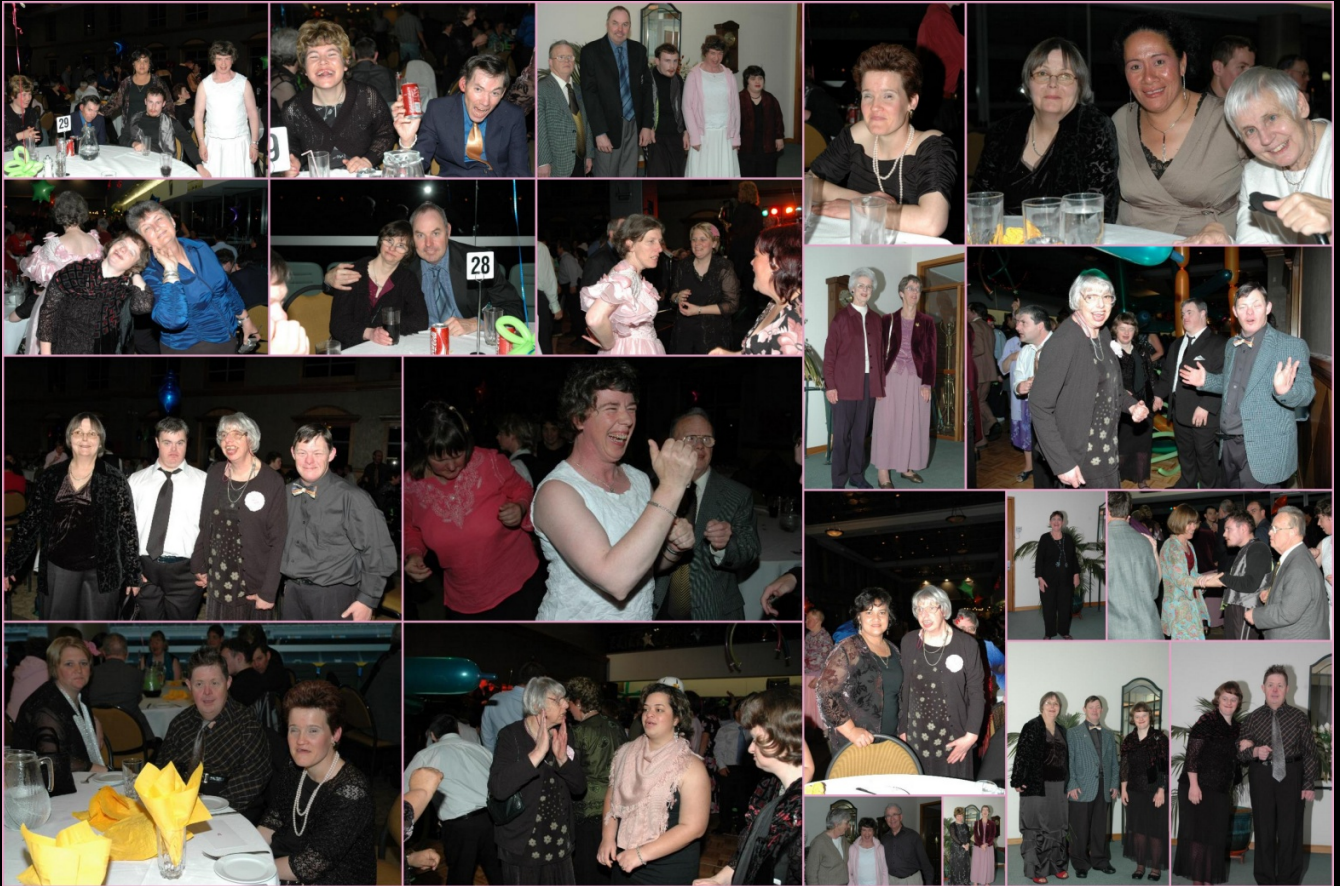
Throughout 2005, the Ranfurly Theatre Players have been rehearsing their version of "MacBeth" which has been adapted to their wide ranging abilities. The Players were encouraged to freely improvise their parts and to bring their own interpretation whilst still remaining truthful to all the classical elements of the story. It was of course a great challenge, but the Ranfurly Theatre Players responded with passion and enthusiasm. They proudly present "MacBeth".







I HC BALL 2005



RANFURLY CARE SOCIETY

Newsletter February 2007



Students' glazed tile picture panel

Dear friends,

An opportunity to wish you a belated 'Happy and Prosperous New Year'.

Another successful year has passed at Ranfurly Care; many milestones have been achieved in a year marked by the usual varied mix of outings, events and activities which ensure a full and rich life for our residents and the students of the Activity Centre.

Early this year an ACC visitor called Clair came to arrange funding for a student and was just ecstatic about Ranfurly. She said – "This is Auckland's best kept secret, sprinkled with fairy dust". We all felt that was quite a compliment from someone who is visiting a variety of community homes and services.

At the 29 October AGM the members appreciated an interesting talk by the Activity Staff and you may be interested to know that the Society now has ninety one financial members.

EQS Auditors require our MOH Certification audit to occur 6 August 2007 and SAMS have written to say there will be an Audit in the Activity Centre in the near future! Busy days ahead!

The MOH are now insisting Auckland Providers complete the transparent Funding Model Needs Assessments before March. We also attended a MOH meeting 10 October where it was reiterated they are nationalising the Transparent Pricing Model which entails a minute by minute breakdown of 1:1 staff time spent with an individual resident. Surprisingly they were unable to provide details of the measuring tool! We facilitated a Small Service Providers meeting on 26 September to which we had invited the MOSD, and the MOH re transparent funding and the Needs Assessors from Taikura Trust to speak to the members. Interesting!

The MOH have approached us re accommodation for up to three residents from the Baptist No 6 Hostel in Inverary Ave. The church is closing the facility which has been home to 12 residents for the past 15 plus

years! We have spent many hours with the MOH representatives and are now in the process of converting downstairs – 52 Ranfurly road into a separate three bedroom flat. One of the new residents Janice McKenzie who has been actively involved with us for many years moved into Ranfurly house in the interim.

Staff Training from July 2006 has included:

Computer Training.Co.NZ 4 hours per week, Word and Excel.

November 14. Ten staff attended a 7 Hour Margaret Mclean course on ‘Managing Challenging Behaviour’ 28/29 November. All staff attended a First Aid Refresher Course.

We are very pleased that Vero Insurance are more than satisfied with our compliance and will now not be checking us for a further 4 years instead of the usual two. There was an official fire drill on the 27 September by AssetCare and a further is planned for January.

Holiday plans are underway for 2007, Queenstown with the wonderful hostess Louise Kiely staying at her boutique hotel, Christchurch at Shirley’s friend’s house, Paihia at the Haruru Falls motor camp, Taupo at the Christian camp and another group to Stanmore Bay.

Bruce received much accolade for his achievement of working 40 years at Workforce. His service was recognised at a celebratory luncheon and gift presentation.



Congratulations Bruce – Quite an achievement

After several advertisements we have employed three excellent residential staff members. They are Moeroa Brunt (CPA), Melanie Hauraki (CPA and Ranfurly Care), Bonnie McIntee, (Art and Residential Activities). Due to the recent increase in the MOH funding we have been financially able to employ a staff member for the residential homes whose role is to solely spend quality time with the residents while the other staff are responsible for the Care Giving and Life Skill Training.

Bonnie is employed at CPA and Ranfurly Road to work from 4pm - 9pm three days a week. We have an excellent staff member, Jennifer Smith, who works four nights per week at Ranfurly Road. She replaces the shifts Yogeta has been doing for the past year while she completed her nursing training.



Sadly Jules has left Ranfurly to work full time; we said au revoir to her at a farewell breakfast in the Activity Centre on the 18 September. Her legacy to us is a collection of seventy two individual tiles painted by staff and students formed into a frame which has now been placed on to the exterior office wall, by her husband Peter. We really appreciate their gift to us all!

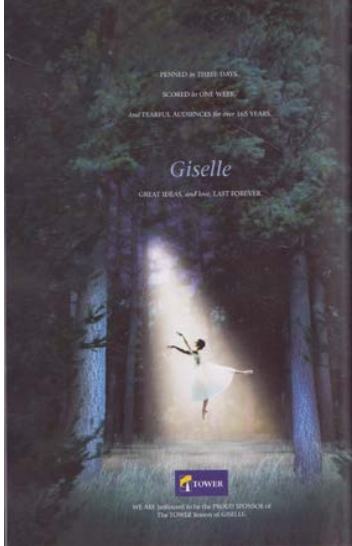
In total we employ 37 valued staff members, some of whom have been with us since inception. In 2006 we increased the total staffing hours from 965 hours to 1024 hours being a significant increase of 59 hours. CPA staffing hours have increased from 191 to 262 hours per week - an increase of 48 hours per week. This includes the sleepover hours of 56 hours per week. Ranfurly Road has increased from 321 to 340 hours per week, an increase of 19 hours per week. The combined Management and Admin staff total 126 hrs per week or 12.5% of the total staffing hours of the service.



The Mid Winter Ball was a great success on 22 July with Residents and friends dressed for the part dancing the night away. The hall looked magical thanks to the staff's dedication and creativity.



Several students enjoyed 'Footloose' a musical held at Westlake 19 July.



Twenty-four students went to the ballet Giselle at the Aotea Centre in December and to Elvis look alike day



13 Dec the Christmas Nativity with a live miniature donkey & baby Jesus was magic! A credit to the staff We enjoyed a get together with families, a Sausage Sizzle at noon followed by the Nativity.

* * * * *



There was great excitement when the film crew for the television programme 'Attitude' arrived on 26 September for several hours of filming a rehearsal of the 'Hound of the Baskervilles'. They interviewed the actors and staff and filmed both Ranfurly Road and Cornwall Park Ave. The producer/presenters successfully included a review of Ranfurly's progress since 1991. Their curiosity had been aroused when they visited our web site and read the history of Ranfurly. The Hound of the Baskervilles was very successful with much accolade for the Producer Brett Ihaka and the Ranfurly Players a unique group of Repertory Actors. The play was well supported with a full house on both nights, (280 tickets sold).





Next year's play is the 'Three Musketeers' as chosen by the players.



We have employed Patrice Camignani Personal Trainer as an instructor for two weekly gym classes at the Centre. After three weeks his eight students are enthusiastic with his classes. We are in the process of purchasing a recumbent bike for Ranfurly home residents' use.

On November 17, staff/residents visited the Ranfurly Art Exhibition at Te Tuhi Art Gallery Pakuranga organised by Jules. Congratulation to the 14 Ranfurly artists who sold paintings.



Two Hour Art Show



You are invited to view the work by art students from Ranfurly Care Society and The Eastgate Community Trust.

When : 17th November 2006
Time : 5pm till 7pm

Drinks and light refreshments

All work will be for sale



The Ranfurly Christmas spirit was well and truly alive!

December

- 1 Students visit the Birkenhead Christmas tree Display
- 4 A Maori Group with their Teacher Manahi Mauheni shared a Christmas Lunch
- 8 The student volunteers were invited to the Selwyn Village Christmas Party
- 10 Student Volunteers were invited to SPCA Christmas Party
- 14 Staff Luncheon successfully prepared this year by the staff
- 15 Students only Christmas Lunch (courtesy of the Activity Centre Staff chefs.)
- 19 We started the New Year with an all day Staff Development day on.

Whilst reviewing the resident's and student's Community Participation Highlights one comes to the conclusion that the residents and students get out and about more than most of us. To mention just a few, a Ranfurly Team participated in the annual 'Round the Bays'; there were visits to the theatre and meals at the Sky Tower. There was a Waitakere night walk for six residents, the highlight being they were all able to stroke an eel. It was a fun night preceded by dinner at Pizza Hut. We raised \$150 for last year's Loud Shirt Day in aid of deaf children. In December the students created and decorated a Christmas tree in the Aotea Centre which was on display until the end of January. CPA had a barbecue luncheon to meet the parents on the 19 January 2007. On 17 January some of the students were invited to visit Clovercrest Donkey Farm to see four new foals.

Over the holidays Val and Dawn had an annual clean up of the grounds and units – it is looking great – you are more than welcome to pop in for a cuppa and chat to the residents.



Another special event was the Blessing of the Animals Service at St Matthews in the City. Our students do a sterling job working as volunteers at the SPCA on a weekly basis.



ANNES 50th Birthday Party



A big welcome to four new students, Carol Wooten and Rachel Fearon who will attend two days a week, Clare Stapleton three days a week and Helen Porter in one drama class session.

There are two coming events which we need you to record in your diary, the flyer is enclosed. If you are able to assist your help would be greatly appreciated.

Garage Sale 21 April 8am start and the Mid Year Pacific night 23 June.

A reminder: Yoga has started again on a Thursday 4pm and you are most welcome to attend.

Once again a big thank you to the staff for so often going that extra mile to further enhance the resident's and student's lives. A big thank you to all those friends and families of Ranfurly who have supported us with your thoughts, kind words and deeds or by financial assistance. God bless you all. *Regards Linda*

Elisabeth's 50th Birthday Party



Bridie's 30th Birthday





Dear friends,

We think of you all especially at this festive time of the year. This is an opportunity to send Christmas greetings and best wishes to all our dear residents, students, friends, supporters and families. This week we celebrated the true meaning of Christmas with our Nativity play which included a miniature donkey and a beautiful baby courtesy of a proud grandmother, our staff member Shirley Lewis. There were readings by Stephen Cathie and Carolyn Purkis, a delightful choir sang and a squadron of happy angels rejoicing and dancing reflected the spirit of Christmas.

Another successful year has passed at Ranfurly Care; many milestones have been achieved in a year marked by the usual varied mix of outings, events and activities which ensure a full and rich life for our residents and the students of the Activity Centre. It has been another year of refurbishment and surviving the Ministry of Health (M.O.H.) full audit. We are proud to have received a certificate notifying us that a further three years certification has been granted, which is the maximum term allocated. The M.O.H. terms of reference cover a vast range of service accountability, and we have been able to satisfy their stringent requirements. It could be said that their standards appear to be more pertinent to the running of a hospital rather than a residential home.

We commissioned a nutritionist - Christal Dunshea to review our menu files etc - a pleasing result - her last comment being she would be happy to have a friend or relative live here.

A big welcome also to the three new residents - Janice McKenzie, Christie Ryan and Craig Henderson, who moved into the new downstairs flat on 18 June 2007.

The major 2007 project has been the refurbishment and creation of this flat and the painting of the building. We are grateful to the Lion Foundation for granting us \$40,000 towards the project. The catalyst for the development of the flat was when the M.O.H approached us re accommodation for up to three residents from the former Baptist Church, Number Six Hostel in Inverary Ave, Epsom. The Executive agreed to convert the downstairs area into a three bed roomed unit. Once a project starts there is a myriad of repairs and maintenance highlighted and needed to be attended to. While at the premises, the builders also worked on some outstanding repairs and maintenance including replacing the entire window catches in the house. For additional security we installed a new fence right along the boundary to separate us from the park without spoiling the views from all the new rooms. For the safety of the residents we have recently installed a fence to isolate the back garden access.

A further welcome to two new students at the Activity Centre, Eric Mc Camish and Melanie Solia,

As a requirement of both contractors, the Ministry of Social Development and the M.O.H. a Life Style Plan is completed annually for each resident and student. There are now nineteen residents at Ranfurly Road,

fifty four students at the Activity Centre and twelve residents at Cornwall Park Avenue. A total of eighty three people annually requiring a review. We pride ourselves on our Life Style Plans which are very pictorial and show a very detailed and progressive account of the resident/students year's activities.

Ranfurly's service requirements have increased to the point where we are now contracting more external specialists. This year we have contracted a Gardener, Jules Worley, who attends regularly for garden maintenance and he is also sourcing free plants for us! Patrice Camignani from Mardi Bleu Ltd, trading as Gym and Tonic, continues to take two weekly personal trainer classes. Thanks to a generous donation, we have been able to purchase excellent new equipment by selling the 'Multi Gym' on 'Trade Me' to be replaced with a single Dynamic Pulley. We have two exercycles for the residents at Ranfurly home to use.

As previously mentioned, it has been a year of major refurbishment for the house in Ranfurly Road. Refurbishments have included repainting the exterior, new carpet throughout the house, new leather couches that are comfortable, practical and tone well with the current décor.

An outstanding project at the end of the year is our desire to build a fale where the trampoline used to be – a nice shady spot to sit and enjoy dinner in the summer. We have a builder on to this so hopefully it will not be too far into the New Year before we have one.

Residential

Both services are very interactive within the community and excellent records are maintained of all our Weekend and Community Outings. We welcome any one who is interested to come and peruse them! Early in January a group of residents went to Clover Crest Donkey Farm. This is where our 'Nativity' donkeys have come from. They have served us well for two years now! An acquaintance had been formed with the owners of the Miniature Donkey Farm the previous year at the blessing of the animals, an annual event.

In February there was diner at the Pizza Hut followed by a 'Night Walk' in the Waitakere for eight residents and some staff. The highlight was being able to stroke an eel. Later on in the year another night walk was embarked upon – this time it was a Star Trek in the Waitakere Ranges. At Easter the 'Quota' Ladies and a St. Cuthbert staff member presented us with beautiful baskets of eggs which were shared amongst the residents.



We have had special 'milestone' birthdays this year Dougie celebrated his sixtieth and Janice celebrated her fiftieth. Both were given a special 'Theme Day' at the Activity Centre. Bridie had a fabulous thirtieth birthday later on in the year when she had an evening celebration at the Activity Centre which was attended by her family, staff and friends.



During the course of the year holidays were provided at a variety of venues,

Queenstown with the wonderful hostess Louise Kiely staying at her boutique hotel, Christchurch at Shirley's friend's house, Paihia at the North Paihia Haruru Falls motor camp, Stanmore Bay, Duders Beach and Papamoa.

The CPA complex is working very well and providing a homely, safe environment for twelve residents. Six residents are involved in the Life Skills Training Programme which focuses on one to one interaction with staff assisting them to achieve more independent living. This includes weekly menu planning, grocery shopping and cooking their own meals (with staff on hand to assist)

Activity Centre

I am pleased to advise that Clive Backhouse has accepted the newly created position of Activity Centre Co-ordinator. It has been a natural transition as Clive has been recognised by many as the coordinator.

Formalizing the position will 'smooth out any wrinkles' – metaphorically speaking of course and allow more delegation than in our current administrative procedures.

There have been so many outings and special occasions during the course of the year, but we will mention just a small sample of them: We celebrated another successful 'Loud Shirt Day' and managed to raise \$200 which we donated to the Hearing House. Loud Shirt day is an annual appeal of The Hearing House and Southern Cochlear Implant Pediatrics Programme, two charities who are dedicated to enabling deaf children with a cochlear implants to listen and speak like their hearing peers.

The Cancer Society wrote to thank us for our donation of \$70 for this year's annual appeal.

We continue to support the World Vision boy, Chipego, who himself is physically impaired.

This year's play *The Three Musketeers* played to a capacity audience on the nights of 15 /16 November. The talented Ranfurly Players achieved their goal of performing on stage completely on their own with no prompting or assistance and improvising their performances. The Ranfurly Players are a theatre repertory formed in 2005 at the Ranfurly Care Society in Auckland. It is the only theatre Repertory of its kind in New Zealand showcasing the acting skills of those with intellectual impairments and disabilities.

The Actors rehearse, learn dialogue, stage movement, improvisation and bring to the stage their own unique skills and talents which fosters a great spirit of independence. All actors are included in the performances regardless of ability – even if that means doing things a little differently i.e. In *The Hounds of the Baskervilles* there were two Doctor Watson's – one in a wheelchair. Every performance is unique and full of surprises – how the story will turn out nobody knows as the actors take the lead. It is a challenging process for all involved but the results have been remarkable. Thanks to Producer Brett Ihaka for his vision, passion and commitment.





The Activity Centre provides a service for 54 students Monday to Friday. At peak times the highest student-to-staff ratio is seven-to-one.

YOGA is still available for both residents and staff at the Activity Centre at 4.00 pm each Thursday.

Brett Ihaka submitted three of Peter Mowday's photographs to the Abilities Art Festival a Canadian International Contest. Peter received a certificate for his part in the exhibition.

Another very successful student and staff team entered the 'Round the Bays' 18 March 2007 followed by a 'Sausage Sizzle' at Ranfurly Road.

Garage Sale - final proceeds were exceptional this year - \$4,482.00. This was partly due to 'Trade Me' sales of the high quality items that had been donated. This included several items from our friends the QUOTA ladies, totaling \$1809.00!

In May the SPCA Volunteers from the Activity Centre attended the annual Blessing of the Animals in St. Matthews Church in the city. Preceding the blessing, the group enjoyed a cooked breakfast in Albert Park and walking with the animals in the parade.

Other special outings throughout the year have included Candy Land & Hamilton Zoo, At Barry Bicknell's Coromandel Driving Creek Railway, MOTAT, Art Gallery, Auckland Zoo, and a fun meeting of the Warrior team players. A Maui Concert at the Civic Centre, Ice Skating, a night Star Trek and dinner at Titirangi, a visit to the Rose Centre at Belmont for a concert - Mistletoe, Celtic Duo, guitar and whistle and a Harbour Discovery lunchtime cruise. The students have also been to Design Expo Greenlane, Kaihau for Fish and Chips, Sylvia Park and numerous Shopping Malls. They have been to movies such as Shrek 3, an Orchid Show, Ryder Movie Theatre and a Church sponsored Scottish Dance Evening

Many compliments have been received from visitors to the Aotea Centre for Ranfurly's exhibit in the Christmas tree display -both last year and this year!

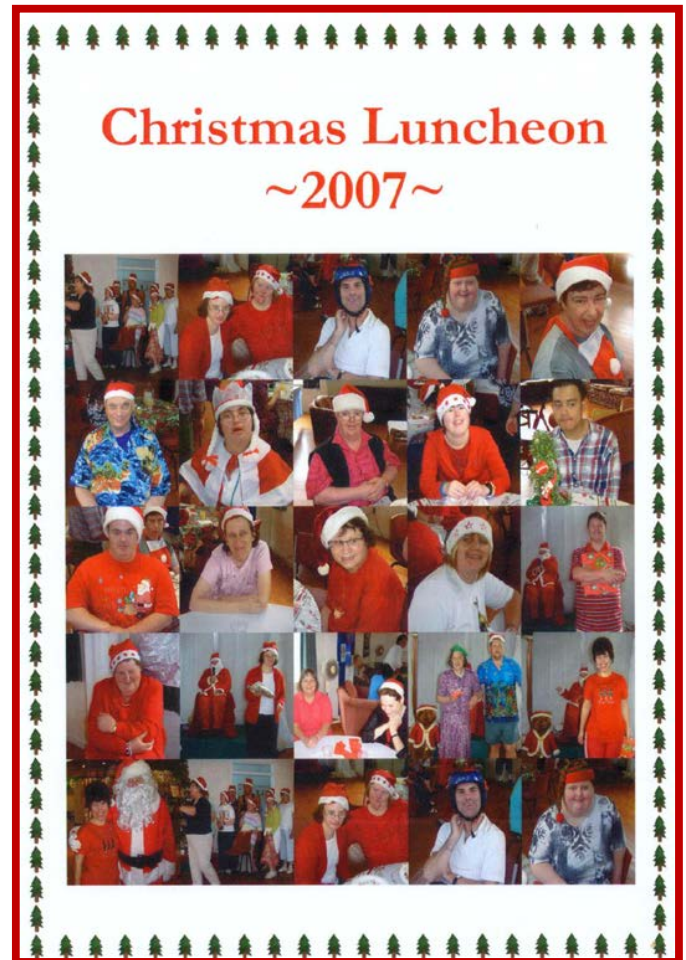
Our Hall at the Activity Centre was used for a Special Evening on 23 November. Special Olympics put on a Disco for the welcoming home of the athletes who had participated in the recent World Games in Shanghai. They all did extremely well and we are all very proud of them representing New Zealand.

Lost Friends

It has been a sad year with regards to the residents/friends and family members that we have had to say good bye to. Jan Seabrooke (mother of the late Chris Seabrooke- ex student) in June. Harriett Hersten (mother of Andrea Richardson and Vicki Cross – residents) in June Elizabeth Perry (mother of Allan Perry – student) in June Ian Duncan (resident) in August Anna O'Conner (mother of Peter O'Conner – student) in August Ryan Tarlton (student) in October. Donations were made to Ranfurly Care in lieu of flowers for these dear friends for which we are very grateful to receive.

Staff

In total we now employ 38 valued staff members, some of whom have been with us since inception. We have recruited eight new staff members. They are: Melanie Hauraki, Elizabeth Burger, Kirsten Hutley, Leticia Guinares, Catherine Evelyn, Emma Mc Kenzie and Melody Walbran, (March 07). Jennifer Smith, Adrian Hansen and Bonnie Mc Intee left for personal reasons.



This year 2007, we have increased the total staffing by 12%. C.P.A. staff hours are now 309 per week, Ranfurly Road 353 hours, the Activity Centre staff 308 and the combined Management and Administration staff hours totals 138 hrs per week. If you telephone the office you may speak to Kirsty who is now working four days a week. Kirsty has been delegated the task of being our new OSH coordinator which has meant her attending courses at E.M.A.

Once again a big thank you to the staff, for so often going that extra mile to further enhance the resident's and student's lives.

A big thank you to all those friends and families of Ranfurly who have supported us with your thoughts,

CHRISTCHURCH HOLIDAY 2007

kind words and deeds or by financial assistance. God bless you all.

Regards Linda

Saturday 21st April 2007

It's 6.15am and Shirley and Richard arrive at Ranfurly House to collect Andrea, Vicki and Bruce. It feels like the middle of the night but Ranfurly is alive with people. Everyone is soon into the van and off to the airport. Richard drops everyone off and sets off back to help at the Garage sale. We have a cup of hot chocolate before boarding the plane. There is a hold up when we all board. The plane has to be refueled so instead of leaving at 7.50am it's 8.20am before we take off. We arrive in Christchurch at 9.30am and it's a dull day but not too cold. We give Lesley (our friend) a call. She lives just down the road from the airport so was along in no time to collect us and our luggage and take us to Gae's house. Gae has left earlier in the morning to go to England.

We unpack, and then familiarize ourselves with the house, we have all been here 2 years ago, and then we make ourselves a cuppa. Our first activity is to go to the supermarket to buy some provisions for the week. After we have taken the groceries home and popped them all away we set off for Ashburton. Gae has a brand new Honda Jazz. Its bright blue and we hurtle along the Canterbury Plains towards Ashburton. It's an hour's drive away. We call into K.F.C. for a bite of lunch before heading around to Shirley's cousin Craig's home. We are hungry because it's 1.15pm and we haven't eaten anything since about 5.30am! You have to buy food on the aeroplane now; you don't even get given a biscuit!! We set off to Craig's house only to discover Shirley has the wrong address and we are at the wrong house! Thank goodness for mobile phones! We soon are on the right road but silly old Shirley doesn't remember the right number and she knocks on the wrong door again.

Fortunately Craig sees Shirley at the wrong house across the road and he comes to the rescue. Soon we are all at the right place and enjoying a nice cup of tea. Craig and Bev have a wonderful crop of tomatoes and they pick some for us. We all have a chat for awhile and then we set off to visit another friend of Shirley's who now lives in Ashburton. She didn't know we were coming and unfortunately she was not home. We are not too unhappy because we are all very, very tired and now we can drive back home. Have our tea, sort out our money, write up our diaries, relax for awhile, watch a little bit of TV (some mother's do have em) and then set off to bed. We won't take much rocking tonight because we've been up such a long time and we're all a bit weary!! Goodnight everybody.

Sunday 22nd April

We must have been very tired because it was 8.45am before anyone stirred!! What a good sleep we've all had. Now the pressure is on to get up, have breakfast, shower and get dressed ready to set off on today's activity. At 11.30am we are meeting Shirley's other cousin Carolyn and her husband Peter in Oxford. We are having lunch at "Seagars at Oxford". This is a café and Cook School owned by Jo Seager (the easy Peasy T.V Cook) and her husband Ross. They now live in Oxford in Nth Canterbury and have set up this fabulous café which was absolutely flat out. Such a lot of people go out there to enjoy the delicious food and shop at the fabulous kitchen shop they have alongside. Jo herself even brought out our meals to our table. We all had a chat and took photos, fancy talking to a TV celebrity!! After lunch we all went back to Carolyn and Peter's place at Amberly. We were there two years ago so it was nice to go back. We had a cuppa and a slice of fresh homemade bread and homemade apricot jam! Carolyn and peter have an

apricot orchard so the apricots were home grown as well. Peter took us out into the orchard and we picked Royal Gala apples. They are so delicious to eat straight from the tree. Soon it is time to head back to Christchurch. We cook our dinner, write our diaries, balance our money, watch a little TV, ride on the exercycle and then head off to bed. Another busy day, but a happy one. We all love Canterbury. The countryside is so beautiful. We have been thinking about Tania and decide to buy a "Get well" card tomorrow.

Monday 23rd April

Today dawned bright, the sky was blue with only wispy clouds, a real change from the dull cloudy days we have had so far. We do a quick shop at New World to get something for lunch because we are going out to Rangiora to visit Shirley's Aunt Isobel and Uncle Evan. They have moved from Manurewa at the end of last year. Andrea and Vicki know them well so it's nice to see them again.

They have moved to a new townhouse and we enjoying seeing their new home and having lunch with them. Isobel has cooked delicious corn chowder and chocolate chip muffins.

Because it is such a beautiful day and because we didn't make it the last time we were here, we decide to drive through to Hanmer and spend the afternoon soaking in the hot pools.

Off we go. The colours of the trees all along the countryside are just stunning and it's a beautiful drive north through to Hanmer. We spend about 2 hours having fun relaxing in the variety of pools. It's a lovely setting surrounded by the rugged hills. The day is so glorious; we spend an afternoon in Paradise. Everyone decides to stay at the pool complex and have dinner in the Garden house restaurant looking out over the pools. What a stunning place this is and what a wonderful day we have had. We have a final wander around the pools and reluctantly we set off on our long drive home. We're tired but it's been so lovely and we have all enjoyed a great day. Also bought poppies for Anzac day today at Hanmer.

Tuesday 24th April

Another later start today because we had such a late night and this is the good thing about a holiday. We can do just as we please. We love it here in Christchurch. In fact we all keep saying that we would love to live here. This morning after we had breakfast and washed our togs and towels we packed a picnic lunch. Today we are going to the Willowbank Wildlife Reserve and we're going to have our lunch there. But before we go we pop down to the Riccarton Mall because we want to buy our cards for Tania, we didn't get a chance yesterday. We buy them, write in them and get them posted. We have thought and talked about Tania a number of times. Get well soon Tania. Andrea and Vicki have enjoyed a pampering manicure with Angela and Jungking. We buy notebooks and new socks, the last of the big spenders! We are feeling hungry by now so it's off to Willowbank where we enjoy our picnic lunch. We spend many hours leisurely wandering around this wonderful place. There's monkeys, emus, donkeys, cattle, pigs, llamas, goats, a draught horse called Bess who stamps his foot when she wants more food! There are lots and lots of birds and two Gibbons who make an awful racket! They have big air sacks under their chins which puff out and the noise is incredible! We wander through the swamplands and the kiwi house. We see some kiwis, a morepork, wood pigeons, keas and many more animals and birds. This whole place is just amazing and we've all had a great time. Vicki has really been taken with the monkeys and the otters and spent a lot of time just staring at them all!! We have a quiet night tonight catching up with all the diaries etc. We are enjoying our holiday immensely and tomorrow we are in for a real treat. Read on to find out what we are going to do!!

Wednesday 25th April

This has been a real holiday and we haven't raced to be up at the crack of dawn.

Today it was about 8.15am when we all got up. We had a delicious cooked breakfast this morning, bacon and eggs, hash browns and tomatoes, it was yummy. Today we have a real treat in store for us. We are going out to the Antarctic attraction centre. Shirley has spoken to the manager, Lindsay Johnston and he has given us a very good deal. We are grateful for his generosity. We spent the first hour looking at some of the static displays and spent a lot of time enjoying the little fairy blue penguins. We watched them jumping up and down the rocks and diving into the water, they were so cute. Soon we headed outside because it was time to climb up into the Haaglund snow vehicle. We were off at great speed to the neighboring field which has been set up as a real obstacle course. We went up, up, up and down, down, down. We went sideways this way and back sideways that way. We rocked and rocked and had to hold on so very firmly. We had seat belts on and straps hanging from the ceiling rail. It was so amazing, so thrilling, so exciting – just like being at the Antarctic!!

We all squealed with delight and a little bit of fear. We even drove through and sat in a pond for a little while. We could see the water coming up the back door!! What a great ride and after it was all over we all gave it the thumbs up!! Roger the driver had his photo taken with us. He was a very good driver and made sure we all stayed safe. Having finished our Haaglund ride we raced back inside. Now we're off to the snow and ice room. Before entering we have to put on some rubber over shoes on top of our own shoes. Then we put on a big Antarctic jacket. We really looked as though we were off to the Antarctic. We move into this big room where there is snow and ice all around so we get to experience what it is like to walk on land in the Antarctic. There's all sorts of things that would be around if we were at Scott base. Soon we hear this huge noise. The room starts to darken and the wind starts to become noisier and stronger and soon we're in the midst of a huge wind storm just the same as would be experienced down at the Antarctic. Vicki is smart enough to take cover in a little ice hut. Bruce snuggles into Andrea who just stands and experiences the whole storm standing there and letting the wind whip around her. Once the storm abated and the lights came back on both Andrea and Vicki had a go on the ice slide. What fun they had. We took some photos and then came back out and disrobed. Soon it was time to head around to the penguin enclosure again for 1.30pm and feeding time. That was such fun watching these cute little animals being fed herrings. Some don't like to go into the water for various reasons and they are hand fed by the attendant. By now we are feeling a bit peckish and we've decided to have lunch at the café at the centre. We all enjoy a bowl of delicious vege soup. Then its back to the static displays to look at some more. We have so much enjoyed all the little videos, many of them about penguins and seals. We go to the souvenir shops. Andrea and Bruce buy t-shirts and Vicki buys an activity book. We spend 6 hours today at the Antarctic centre, not bad for \$17.00!! What an interesting and exciting day we've had. Everyone has been so kind to us and we have enjoyed it immensely. Back home we go. We cook our dinner and enjoy a quiet evening watching television and writing up our diaries.

Thursday 26th April

Another slow start this morning but everyone seems perfectly happy about the fact. We have a leisurely breakfast because today we have decided we will not be taking the car out and that we will walk everywhere today. We are living very close to Hagley Park and if we walk across the park we will end up at the arts centre. So about 11am we set off taking some bread with us in order to feed the ducks. There are lots and lots of people walking and jogging through the park. It's a little cloudy today but is a good day for walking. We stop to take a few photos. We finally arrive at Rolleston Ave and walk along past Christ College for boys, what wonderful old stone buildings. We all love the stone buildings here in Christchurch and there are plenty of them around this area.

We pop into the museum for a comfort stop and while we are there we have a look around. We even found an old penny farthing bicycle which Andrea climbed up onto and tried to ride it!! How funny did she look, way up in the air. After all that exercise we were ready for lunch so we popped over the road to the Arts Centre and found a little café called "Backstage" where we enjoyed a piece of delicious bacon and egg pie. Bruce had a ham and cheese baguette. This was accompanied by a hot chocolate which is our favourite drink when we are doing the café scene. In the café we met Winnie the 7 year old guide dog who was there with her blind owner and a friend. Winnie was very well behaved and lay quietly under the table while her owner ate her lunch. We had a good wander and look around the arts centre going into lots of the shops where there were gorgeous things to look at.

Leonne who owned one of the shops was very friendly to us and gave Andrea a paua hair tie which she used as a bracelet. Leonne gave Vicki a book called "Farm Bear". This book was written by Philip Holden who was Leonne's late husband. We talked to her friendly little white scotch terrier as well. We moved onto the fudge cottage where we bought some delicious fudge. We also did a little fudge tasting. Yummy. In another little shop we met Mary Lou who was making some little face sculptures in clay. She was very friendly as well and we told her all about coming from Auckland and Ranfurly.

We really want to have a ride on the tram so there is a stop just outside the arts centre and there is a tram waiting so we all jump on very quickly. The driver is very generous and let us get on for half price. Thank you, tram driver. We're on a circuit around the inner city and it's very interesting hearing all about the old buildings and some new ones. As we're disembarking from the tram the black clouds are rolling over the city and we think we need to head for home. We do a quick jaunt through the botanic gardens and then head in a straight line across the park in the direction of Kilmarnock St, fortunately we make it before any rain comes! We're glad to be home in the warm and enjoy a cuppa and a biscuit.

A meeting has been held and it has been decided that we will go out for Chinese tonight seeing as it is our last night in Christchurch.

Last time we were in Christchurch we had a meal at a lovely Chinese restaurant but we cannot remember exactly where it was. By now it is dark and raining and we've driven down the road where we thought it was but we can't find it. So we head off in search of another. We ask the man at the BP station where we fill up with petrol but he is of no help, just tells us to get takeaways – it's cheaper!!/ But we don't want takeaways because we have decided to go out for dinner. We come back down Riccarton road and stop and ask a very nice business man-well we think he is a business man because he is wearing a suit and a tie! He tells us that there is a very nice place called "Yummy's" just around the corner. We thank him, take on his recommendation and go to "Yummy's". The food was delicious. We have a great meal. The staff is very nice to us all. It has been a good way to spend our last night.

We can hardly believe that our holiday is almost over. We'll all have a good sleep tonight and be up bright and early in the morning. We have a clean up to do in Gae's house and her car to clean so we will be busy. Goodnight everybody.

Friday 27th April

The day dawned and it is raining. Started last night and it's the first rain we have had since we have been in Christchurch. We have cooked breakfast this morning using up all our leftovers. We've estimated the amount of food we needed very well. We have dined well all week. After breakfast its time to change beds, clean the bathroom, kitchen, wash the floors, do the vacuuming. Gae has organized for her friend to wash our sheets and towels etc so that is wonderful because of the rain. We're all done, showered and packed by the time Lesley arrives at 11.45am. She takes us back to her house to see her beautiful golden retriever. Georgia is very pleased to see us although Vicki is not quite so pleased to see Georgia!! Lesley invites us to have lunch with her before taking us out to the airport. We're very happy to accept her invitation and we all enjoy a delicious cottage pie and freshly home baked cheese scones. How very kind folk have been to us while we have been here on holiday. All too soon its time to set off to the airport. From Lesley's place it's only a 5 minute drive. We say goodbye to Lesley and thank her for her lovely hospitality. We have a bit of a delay after checking in but soon we are winging our way north back to Ranfurly – our home and our friends.

It has been a great week and we have all thoroughly enjoyed it.

We all look forward to going back again sometime!



Pacific Star Cruise 2008

Memories at Sea

Saturday 5th January 2008

At last the day has finally arrived when we go on the cruise to New Caledonia. Val, Rachel, Bobbie, Pam, Bridie, Anna, Joanne, Brett, April and Dawn were driven down to Queens Wharf where they excitedly climbed the steep gangplank onto the Pacific Star. They found their 3 cabins, settled in and met Linda and Pauline up on deck. There was a real party atmosphere up on deck all afternoon with the entertainment crew organizing singing and dancing.

We sailed at 6p.m. and after dinner when we went out on deck. We were surrounded by water. We toured the ship and located the library, gym, hairdresser etc and retired for the night, looking forward to tomorrow.

Sunday 6th January

Today was windy and quite rough and it was difficult walking round at times. April was quite seasick and confined to her cabin all day. In the morning we sat on the poolside deck and joined in a musical quiz. After the lovely buffet lunch we joined a flower-making class and made roses out of crepe paper. At dinner the theme was French food and Anna was the only one to try snails. In the evening we attended a rock and roll show which was great fun. The ship really comes alive after 9.30pm

Monday 7th

The sea is calmer today and we are finally getting our sea legs. After breakfast we sat round the pool deck and Bridie and Joanne had a swim. We saw a flower demonstration and the waiters gave a cocktail-making demonstration. There is always something to entertain us! In the evening everyone got dressed in their best for the captain's cocktail party, which was great fun. Later we went to the casino to have a play on the pokies. Then we hit the karaoke bar where Bridie got up and sang to great applause.

Tuesday 8th

Dawn and Val were up at 7 am to see the ship arrive in New Caledonia. What a lovely morning but oh so hot! It was 33 degrees and 100% humidity!!

When we went ashore there were groups of islanders playing music and singing songs to welcome us off the ship. We wandered round the market then tried to get a bus to the beach. However as everyone spoke French they did not understand so we gave up and went back to the market and had an ice-cream to cool down.

In the afternoon we took a tour in an air-conditioned bus and saw the beaches and mountain scenery before returning to the ship at 3.30 pm. There was a leaving party later as the ship sailed away before we went to the dining room for an Italian dinner. After a tiring day we retired early and gave the rock and roll party a miss.

Wednesday 8th

We arrived in Ouvéa at 7 am and anchored just outside the lagoon. When we were ready to go ashore later in the morning we had to go in a tender (very tricky climbing down the wee gangplank into this small boat!) After a 10 minute trip to the island it was again tricky climbing out with the boat rocking and banging on the wharf.

We took a shuttle bus to a nearby beach where some islanders had stalls selling local crafts and food. The beach was beautiful and the fine white sand was like flour. Most of us swam in the beautiful clear blue water. We stayed for 2 hours, enjoying seeing the palm trees, houses made of trees and flax with thatched roofs and local produce. A tender ride back to the ship and we prepared for "Island Night" with leis and flowers etc.

What a party! Flashing lights, pumping music and everyone dancing! We stayed up till midnight enjoying it all.

Thursday 9th

We arrived this morning at the "Isle of Pines" and again went ashore by tender. What a beautiful place. White sand and pine trees everywhere. Also lots of stalls with people selling food etc. We all had a swim or a paddle and watched dancing (Val was chosen to dance). Val and Dawn saw some huge crabs and dare-devil Linda took a 45 minute motorcycle ride around the island.

We went back to the ship for lunch and the ship sailed at 4 pm. In the evening we watched a show.

Friday 11th

We had to go down to Immigration to on deck 4 this morning to have our passports and arrival cards checked for arrival in Auckland. We then watched one of the chefs do an ice carving before visiting the duty free shop to buy something to take back home.

In the afternoon we watched horse racing ship-style which was lot of fun. At dinner all the crew and staff came out to the dining room and we did a bird dance to show our appreciation. Later in the lounge they were building a tower with champagne glasses and people took turns filling it up from the top. We then all had a glass of champagne.

Saturday 12th

We all packed today and got ready for our arrival in Auckland early tomorrow morning. Our bags need to be ready outside our cabins by 9 pm tonight. We had the finals of the horse racing and the karaoke pop stars competitions and we watched Val, Dawn and April try unsuccessfully to win the \$2000 Bingo jackpot. Our cruise is over and we have all have something we will remember for the rest of our lives.





QUEENSTOWN 2007

Sunday 22nd April

Hurray we are off to Queenstown.

Val, Clive, Janice, Peter, Andre, Pam, Laan and Philippa all arrived at the airport at 1pm, checked in and then had time for a hot chocolate at McDonald's while we waited to board our plane which was leaving at 3pm. Everyone was very excited and we discussed how long it would take to get to Queenstown. We all boarded the plane on time and Laan, Andre and Pam got to sit by the window. Laan was very calm although it was her first time ever on a plane. By the time we all had a drink and a snack, it was time to land again. What beautiful views as we came into Queenstown!



We were met at the airport by a taxi and taken to Queenstown House which was 15 minutes drive away. It wasn't very cold either, lovely and sunny and what lovely views over the lake. Louise was waiting for us and showed us to our rooms. What lovely rooms they were with TV and separate bathrooms, very cosy. Everyone unpacked and settled in then got ready for dinner at 6pm, went downstairs and had pre-dinner drinks and met some other friends of Louise's. After dinner we went into the lounge and listened to Mark play the piano, he is a blind friend of Louis. We all joined in and sang along and danced, the staff came and joined in as well. What a great night!



Monday 23rd April

We were all up by 7am, showered and dressed ready to go to breakfast at 9am. After breakfast we all walked into town to have a look around, we had to walk down quite a steep hill to get there, but Laan managed very well as did Pam. What a beautiful day it was and the lake looked stunning, photos were taken by the lake and we wandered onto the wharf and had a look at the "Earnslaw". We bought postcards and then found a nice café where we sat and had a hot chocolate. After lunch we were picked up by a taxi and taken to the bottom of the gondola. Val, Laan and Philippa went in one gondola together and were in fits of laughter on the way up, they thought it was so great. The others were in separate gondolas in front of us. We all met at the top and admired the lovely views overlooking Queenstown. We saw people paragliding, racing down on the luge, having helicopter rides and on the chair lifts. We saw a helicopter land just beside us to pick up some people, Peter got it on video.

Laan, Val, Pam and Philippa caught a taxi back and the others walked into town to do a bit of shopping. They then walked back up the hill to the house and poor Peter was exhausted and fell asleep on his bed. All had a wee rest before dinner which was chicken and roast vegetables followed by apple crumble, we had pre-dinner drinks of grape juice in wine glasses. After dinner we all went into the lounge and Louise joined us and we all talked about our day, Philippa thanked Louise and staff for having us at her "amazing" house and commented on how "amazing" the staff were, she was delighted with her holiday.



Tuesday 24th April

Everyone was in fine spirits again today. After lunch we were picked up by taxi and taken down to the wharf to catch the "Earnslaw" for a trip across Lake Wakatipu to Walter Peak station. It was a great big steam boat and we all could see into the engine room and see the crew shoveling coal into the huge furnace that makes the engine work. Philippa, Andre and Peter walked over a platform above the engine and saw how it all worked. We all had a turn going outside on the deck



at the front of the boat and it was quite windy and a bit wet as was still raining. The trip took about 25 minutes and the scenery was

stunning, lots of lovely colors in the trees and mist hanging over the mountains. Val took lots of photos! Arrived at Walter Peak where we were met at the wharf and taken for a walk around a wee country farm where there were sheep, deer, and 2 huge steers, one with big horns called Hamish. We then went to a lovely old homestead where we had afternoon tea consisting of scones and pikelets plus coffee, tea or orange juice. Val met the sheep station manager and had a nice long chat to him. Then we were all taken to the shearing shed to watch the dog



round up the sheep and then the shearer showed us how sheep were shorn. Back onto the Earnslaw at 4.45pm and headed back to Queenstown, by then it was raining quite heavy so we girls got a taxi back to the house while the men tackled that hill again!

That evening everyone wanted to watch "Dancing with the Stars" so Louise let us watch it on the big TV in one of the apartments next door. We munched on chocolate and formed our own judging panel. Off to bed after another exciting day.

Wednesday 25th April

Clive, Andre and Peter went into town to the Anzac parade and Val and the others got picked up by taxi at 10am and taken to the kiwi bird park where they met the men. We all walked around the park and went into the kiwi house and watched the kiwis feeding. Continued on through the park and saw lots of different birds in aviaries and also lots of Maori huts and flax shelters. Then we all gathered and watched one of the park keepers telling us about the different birds that were there. He showed us a real tuatara and a rainbow lorikeet that would fly down amongst the crowd and sit on his hand and feed. His name was Terence and he was very tame and had been trained to fly back and forth to the park keepers. Terence also tried to take a \$10 note out of Louise's hand but he didn't quite grab it so he flew off into the trees.

Then it was time to move onto the next show which was a Kapa Haka group, they did the Haka and sang some Maori songs and also they showed us a poi dance as well. After that we all joined in and sang the Hokey Tokey Maori style! When the show was over, everyone had their photos taken with them and Laan did her impression of the Haka!



After lunch we were picked up by taxi and taken to the Jet Boats. Laan and Pam stayed back and kept Louise company. Amy (Louise's daughter) and her friend came with us as well and off we went jet boating down the lake and onto the river. It was a bit scary at first and lots of squeals and laughter and Val was the most scared!!! But VERY EXCITING!!!



Philippa laughed the whole time. The driver and made the boat spin around. We all had to wear life jackets as well and we got a bit wet but lots of fun. Peter was sitting in the front next to the driver telling him where to go by giving him

signals with his hands. After 30 minutes we headed back to shore and everyone was buzzing, even Val! Off the boat and back in the taxi to the house for a rest before dinner.

After dinner Louise asked everyone to choose a hat from the hat stand in the hallway and go into the lounge. Then each person had to tell a wee story about why they picked their hat. There were some good story's told then we all had to swap hats with someone else and do the same thing again, it was very funny and everyone enjoyed the game. Another very, very, very, exciting day over.

Thursday 26th April

This is our 2nd to last day today and we all woke up to a clear day. Still a bit of mist over the mountains but the sun was shining. We all got ready after breakfast and got on a bus at 11am and headed off to Arrowtown, about 30 minutes drive away. What a lovely drive it was. Such beautiful scenery with all the autumn colors on all the trees!

On arriving at Arrowtown, Pam and Laan went off with Louise and Jocelyn (Louise's friend) to have a look in the museum and then to the local hall where there was a concert on. Val, Janice and Philippa walked through a Chinese settlement and looked at the little huts that the Chinese gold miners used to live in many years ago down by the river then we wandered around the little village. Clive, Andre and Peter went off to the Chinese settlement as well and along the river exploring and then we all met for lunch at the "The Willows". At 2pm the bus picked us up and we headed back to Queenstown.

That evening we went out to dinner to town to a place called "Fat Catz". We had pizza and dessert with pink lemonade and coke and talked about the week and had lots of laughs over dinner. We gave Louise and Jocelyn thank-you presents from us all for making our stay there so enjoyable. After dinner we headed back to the house and had a wee party in the lounge, Louise put the music on and we danced and sang, Peter sang for us as well and was a great end to our holiday.

The next day we packed up and the men had one last walk down town while Laan, Pam and Phillipa went to the local church with Louise and helped her clean it. Val stayed back at the house and packed bags and re-made all the beds. Soon it was time to say goodbye and into the taxi and off to the airport to head home. Everyone was feeling very happy and we have all had such a great holiday in Queenstown.



Bridie's 30th Birthday Party Celebrations





RANFURLY CARE SOCIETY INC

Newsletter and Christmas Greetings December 2008

Dear friends,

We are well into the spirit of Christmas and are thinking of our friends at this festive time of the year. Just before our recent AGM, Clive Backhouse (Activity Centre coordinator) and I were discussing the future of Ranfurly and the importance of the involvement of families and friends. Clive bought in these poignant notes that he wrote that I would like to share with you all.

Thoughts from an Empty Hall.....Standing in the Activity Centre Hall one morning a few days ago, I was very aware that 'the hall', which has seen so much laughter and even a few tears, is nothing without people. The hall takes on many different forms – a winter grotto, the home of Macbeth, venue for the Special Olympics Disco and much, much more. But at the end of the day it is just part of a building.....

Ranfurly was 'born' out of the commitment of families wanting to ensure a better life for their children or siblings. Sadly, many of those family members have gone, but new ones have taken their places.

To remain vibrant, active and relevant Ranfurly needs the input of all family and society members; otherwise, it will easily lose its family focus. This is why the staff at Ranfurly want to thank all of you who are prepared to help out at various events, whether it be the Cabaret night, helping with 'Round the Bays', giving encouragement for a job well done, or giving advice on how to help a particular student. This input is very much appreciated and *needed*.

People often comment that Ranfurly still retains an 'atmosphere' that many larger organisations have sadly lost – an atmosphere of caring, support, having fun, education and challenges and of sharing our experiences with each other- whether they be joyful or sad.

To retain this uniqueness there needs to be input from both *families and staff*. If Ranfurly is seen as only 'a one way street', just '*another facility*' looking after their children/siblings, then it will only be a matter of time before it will become just that.

So back to the hall! Thankfully, we never have any trouble filling the hall at any of our events – in fact we have on occasion been obliged to turn people away! (Sorry to you!) If you are one of those people who have never been to an event – please come along to the next event – as stated before it is your contribution that 'keeps Ranfurly alive'..... Clive Backhouse



Another successful year has passed at Ranfurly Care; many milestones have been achieved in a year marked by the usual varied mix of outings, events and activities which ensure a full and rich life for our residents and

the students of the Activity Centre.

A big welcome to Peter O'Connor who moved into the Ranfurly Road home in January and to the student Chris Radley who in his first year took a lead role in the 2008 production of Antony and Cleopatra. We are always mindful and eternally grateful to his father John's valuable legal assistance both in the six-month battle prior to the inception of Ranfurly and over the many years since.

Activity Centre

Under the skilled support of Glynis, the Activity Centre sent several students to perform the student's 'Pacifica' item 'Maui from the Sea' at the Auckland Multicultural Society Inc. then at Lakeside Festival at the Pump House, where the audience gave them a well deserved standing ovation. Another popular outing in March was going by ferry to Coromandel to visit Driving Creek railway and in March participating in the annual 'Round the Bays'.

Staff and students had a magical day when forty-eight of us enjoyed a fun in the sun Picnic on Waiheke Island. Five vans went by car ferry to Onetangi to Chris Wren's daughter's home for a picnic to all be spoilt by her wonderful hospitality.

We are very pleased that two pupils from Baradene Girls School continue on a weekly basis as volunteers in the Activity Centre. Baradene College was so impressed by last year's production the 'Three Musketeers' that they decided to hold a fundraising event for Ranfurly. Three of the leading actors, Brett the producer, and myself thanked the School assembly when they presented us with \$2466. Thanks to their generosity, we are now the proud owners of a 'Sound Mixture System'.

The Cabaret evening – a Night with the Stars on 6 September was another great success. We were so impressed with the items that we repeated the concert on the 25 September in order that we could make a DVD.

Classic drama never the same twice

By Lisa Sloan

The tale of Antony and Cleopatra has been told on stages around the world for centuries.

But a group of Epsom actors are set to perform the Shakespeare classic in a way it has never been seen before.

The Ranfurly Players, a group of intellectually disabled actors from the Ranfurly Care Society in Epsom will present an unscripted version of the play on October 16 and 17.

While scenes have been practised and the story learned, the actors do not memorise lines and the dialogue will be largely improvised.

This year's show follows sell-out seasons of Macbeth, The Hounds of the Baskervilles and the Three Musketeers in previous years.

Creative director Brett Ihaka says every time the actors rehearse the play is different so you never know what to expect on the night.

"Because these actors have difficulty remembering lines we tell them what the play is about and then they make it up themselves with regards to the theme of each scene," he says.

"Because they improvise the script this means anything can happen and often does."

Mr Ihaka started the Ranfurly Players in 2005.

While preparing for Antony and Cleopatra, the actors learnt the general story of the play and then thought about how it applied to them.

For example, they imagined how they would feel if their boyfriend or girlfriend ran off with someone else, and how they would feel if their best friend betrayed them.

They then used that information to create scenes and tell the story of the play.

"Our goal is to provide an artistic and creative endeavour for all of those who may not have the opportunity," he says.

Mr Ihaka says scenes can be as short as several minutes to as long as 15 minutes.

"It's different every single time and it depends on what mood they are in," he says.

"We will get a three-hour epic down to just one hour – hopefully."

Throughout the process Mr Ihaka has also been mentoring Ranfurly resident and actor Murray Nash to be the director.

Mr Nash has the ultimate say on how the story is told. "I make sure they know all their lines and they go where they are supposed to," he says.

The Ranfurly Players will perform Antony and Cleopatra at 7.30pm at the Ranfurly Care Centre, 52-56 Ranfurly Rd on October 16 and 17.

Tickets are \$5. For more information, phone 630-4108.



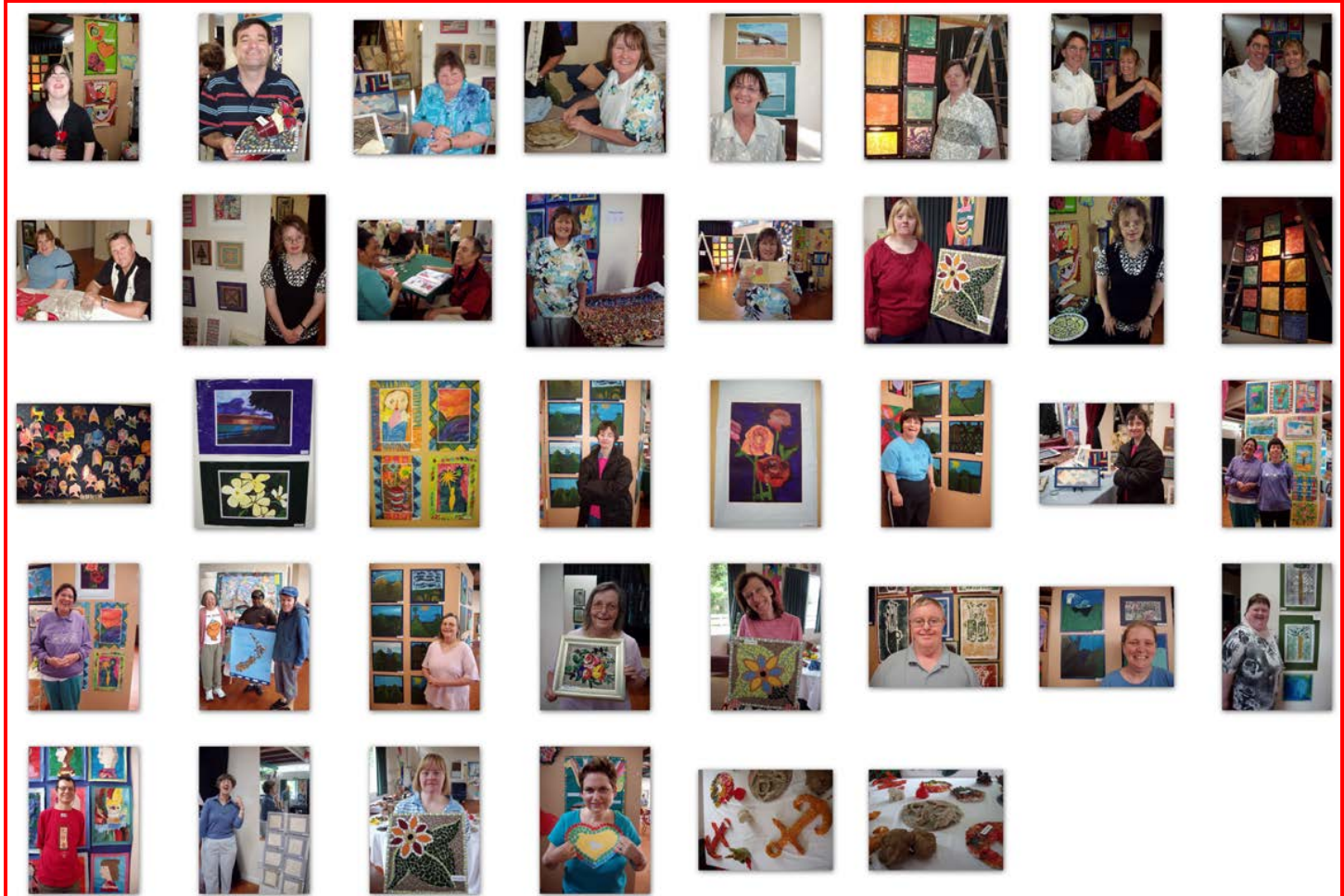
Star struck: The Ranfurly Players are performing an improvised version of Shakespeare's Antony and Cleopatra. From left: Chris Radley, Anne Fitzpatrick, Murray Nash, Fila Solomona, Peter Mowday, Andre Pascual, Carol Wootan and Clara O'Connell.

Photo: JASON GLENHAM

Mellissa Durbin, our Art Teacher, instigated 'Art Expo Evening' on December 5. It was nothing short of amazing – the variety quantity and quality of the years work and achievement. Congratulations to all participants and to Mellissa for her creativity!

By the time, you receive this we will have enjoyed the 19 December BBQ lunch and the annual Nativity Play. The 22 December is the Students formal sit down lunch and Santa's visit – courtesy of the staff. The 23 December is the Student's last day, the clean up and finish for 2008. On 14 January, Students are welcome to return if it helps the families during the holidays and on the 19 January all the students/staff return ready for another rewarding year. Onwards and upwards then as we strive to provide an excellent service moving forward with new ideas and challenges for 2009.

Art Expo 5 December Flight of Fancy Evening



Residential The staffing continues to grow as we strive to achieve excellence in the Services. Some of you may be interested to learn that Ranfurly Road and the flat which houses nineteen residents have a combined 432.50 hours staffing per week, an increase of 79 hours since October 2007.

Staff Training We successfully applied for funding under the M.O.H. Leadership Development Scheme with a pleasing result of receiving a \$9,288.39 (excl G.S.T.) allowance. The Ministry approved two of the four EMA courses our staff attended.

7 April 2008

Autism New Zealand. Introduction to advanced strategies for Autism Spectrum disorders formatted to include social stories and behavioral management using visuals as a tool. Also explores anxieties, introduces

Functional Assessment of comprehension skills and picture exchange communication systems, developing visuals.

- 18 June 2008 Team Leader Toolbox 1 – Facilitating Your Team - Training Supervisors and Team Leaders in the '*development and fine tuning of their team through excellent communication and consensus-building practices*'.
- 27 June 2008 Team Leader Toolbox 2 - Getting the Work Done - An introduction to the techniques that expert 'people managers' use to organise teams, get work done and delegate successfully! *To get your team working together and see their efficiency increase and the profitability of your department or practice improve.*
- 1 July 2008 Workplace Coaching and Mentoring - This course is designed to develop very specific business coaching and mentoring skills that will enable participants to achieve optimum results from their colleagues and team members. This course covers the key elements of coaching and defines the differences between coaching and mentoring.
- 14 & 15 July 2008 The Quality Management Course to Demonstrate Quality Auditing Knowledge – This provided participants with the knowledge and skills to conduct Internal Quality Audits in their own organisation and to contribute as a member of a Quality Audit Team , a Technical Expert, Consumer / Family Auditor. This course is specifically centered on auditing against the Standards associated with the Health and Disability Services Act (Safety Act) 2001.
- 11 Sept 2008 Angela Arnold a (Clinical Psychologist) provided excellent staff training 'Pervasive Development Disorder'.

There have been a variety of holidays this year starting with everyone going to Papamoa Pacific Park from 3-6 March while carpet was replaced in the Ranfurly home. Stanmore Bay was another holiday destination on 17/19 March and the 8/9 April. The Queenstown holiday 13/18 April was super - thanks again to the generous hospitality of Louise Kiely. Then a lucky group of six residents visited Samoa 20/27 June - a great success under the experienced eye of Shirley Lewis and Sara Stacy supported by Shirley's family ties in Samoa in particular 'Aggie Grey Resort' where our residents were treated as 'royalty' by both staff and guests alike. The last holiday for residents this year was at Lake Taupo 21 - 24 October 2008.

Both services are very interactive within the community and excellent records are maintained of all our Weekend and Community Outings. We welcome any one who is interested to come and peruse the pictorial files. We are very fortunate that Julie Cooke continues to facilitate the Ranfurly Road Residents' Meetings bi monthly – many thanks to you Julie we all appreciate your input.

There are too many special outings from the homes to mention but one that stands out was when George took a group to the 'Shortland Street' filming set – they are all 'Shortland Street' fans you can imagine the excitement in meeting some of the cast.

Repairs and Maintenance The 'fale' is a great success as a nice shady spot the Ranfurly Road residents to sit or to enjoy dinner in the summer. Sadly, we had to remove the Aviary and two diseased trees, which will be replaced and replanted in 2009. The exposed bare fence will be covered in split ponga logs and the area grassed creating another pleasant leisure area.

For the safety of the residents and the security of the property we have installed a fence to isolate the back garden access. A pedestrian entrance, a sliding gate operated by automatic sensor pads and an intercom system will be operating in the driveway by Christmas. I will be in contact with you all re the pin number for the pedestrian entrance though you will always be able to gain access by the intercom. We are very mindful that we operate under an open door policy consequently with what we have organized there should be no problems and we will have a safer home environment.

Activity Centre The production Antony and Cleopatra was nothing short of brilliant, the actors were totally on the stage on their own without staff assistance.

The Central Leader printed an excellent article/photo about Ranfurly and the objective players. After obtaining five quotes from various curtain makers and ensuring that any fabric we purchased was fire retardant, we chose to purchase the curtains from Curtain Creations and we have received wonderful service from them.



Some of the recent events have included a Sausage sizzle at Cornwall Park, friends and family members, the Operatunity pantomime (loosely based on the story of Cinderella), a student visit to the Te Waka Marae.

Many compliments have been received from visitors to the Aotea Centre for Ranfurly's exhibit in the Christmas tree display - both last year and this year! This year's theme was 'recycling'!

The Students enjoyed a night of fun at Boogie Wonderland and a BBQ at Te UnWaka Marae.

The 10 December Odyssey House Kapa Haka concert visit to Ranfurly was very touching with Ranfurly performing 'Mystic Beginnings' and their group performed several items. In the end, both groups were performing several raucous Hakas together. Such fun!

There was a Joy Ministries BBQ lunch for the students and finally the Pumphouse Santa show.

General Our condolences go to many families as sadly we have lost many friends this year who include, Gwyn Duncan, Margaret Whitta, Peter Mowday snr, Harry Littlewood and just this week we heard the sad news that Brian Bicknell who was our Alert taxi driver for many years.

All those we love remain with us, for love itself lives on, cherished memories never fade because a loved one's gone. Those we love can never be more than a thought apart. For as long as there is a memory they will live on in your heart

This is an opportunity to send Christmas greetings and best wishes to all our dear residents, students, friends, supporters and families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year for 2009.

Once again a big thank you to the staff, for so often going that extra mile to further enhance the resident's and student's lives.

A big thank you to all those friends and families of Ranfurly who have supported us with your thoughts, kind words and deeds or by financial assistance. And finally here is something to think about when you are writing and sending your Christmas cards.

Christmas Cards

I have a list of friends I know, all written in a book.
And every year at Christmas Time I go and take a look
And that is when I realise that these names are a part,
Not of the book they're written in, but of my very heart.
For each name stands for someone who has crossed my path some time.
And in that meeting they've become the rhythm of the rhyme
And while it sounds fantastic for me to make this claim,
It's true; I really am composed of each remembered name
And while you may not be aware of any special link,
Just meeting you has changed my life much more than you can think
For once you've met somebody, the years cannot erase,
The memory of a pleasant word or of a friendly face
So never think my Christmas cards are just a mere routine,
Of names upon a Christmas card that is addressed to you,
It's because you're on that list of folks I am indebted to.
For you are but a total of many folks I've met,
And you happen to be one of those I prefer not to forget
And whether I have known you for many years or few
In some small way you had a part in shaping things I do
For every year when Christmas comes, I realise anew,
The biggest gift that life can give is meeting folks like you.
May the spirit of Christmas that forever and ever endures
Leave its richest blessings in the hearts of you and your

Merry Christmas to You All from the Ranfurly Staff



Some of our staff at the Christmas Luncheon December 2008

Dear Friends of Ranfurly

Doesn't time fly! Here we are already half way through the year so I thought it was timely to give you an update of the last six months events.

During the Christmas holidays, we were able to purchase a 10 Seat Nissan Caravan Coach 2003, with a genuine very low mileage all for a very reasonable amount. It is a purpose built for people with disabilities, therefore perfect for the Activity Centre community interaction 'out and about' and the resident's weekend outings. We acquired the Nissan to replace the red Hiace van that was stolen last year. We now have an excellent fleet of comfortable vehicles having purchased a new Previa van when we sold the old Bongo, 'our wonderful old workhorse'.

As you are undoubtedly all aware George Butler is now working at the Activity Centre, and as part of our restructuring plan we recruited a new coordinator Emily Conway for Cornwall Park Avenue. Emily has worked in the disability sector for twelve years, in the field of Education, Health and Social Care and is a qualified Social Worker. She brings with her a wealth of experience and knowledge having recently arrived from England commencing with us on 16 February 2009. This restructure has been most successful for both employees (George & Emily) and our residents and students.

Several staff members have reduced their hours at the Activity Centre. Shirley is now only working one half day a week, Tom four days and Joy three. Dagmar Simon (who has been and is currently working one day a week at the Ranfurly residential flat) has a similar background to Emily. She is now working three days a week at the Activity Centre continuing Shirley's activity groups.

A group of residents participated in a five day holiday at Papamoa Beach 23 March to 27 March – beautiful weather and lots of fun was had by all. Louise Kiely invited a group to holiday in Queenstown during the last week in April from the April 27 to the 1 May 2009. Once again, many thanks to Louise for her wonderful hospitality. Everyone had a great holiday.

Influenza vaccinations were given to all residents (whose families had consented to) and those staff wanting to on 30 March 2009.

Special Olympic Indoor Bowls started again on the evening of the 23 March at Ranfurly's Activity Centre hall. Four residents attended the Whangarei Regional Games held over Queen's birthday weekend. Yes and there were plenty of medals came home as evidence of their success.



Now to the really exciting news that we are absolutely thrilled about..... we are in the process of completing the purchase of a holiday home for Ranfurly Care. We feel privileged we have been able to do this due to the extremely generous legacy gifted to us by our friend the late Gwynn Duncan.

We know that Gwynn would be very happy that we have used her legacy to purchase a holiday home as her family's life revolved around their Pauanui holiday home and the beach. Settlement of this property is on Friday 5 June. On Saturday 6 June we can all celebrate! You have an 'open invitation' to visit the house – so drop in for a cup of tea sometime between 11.00 am and 3.00

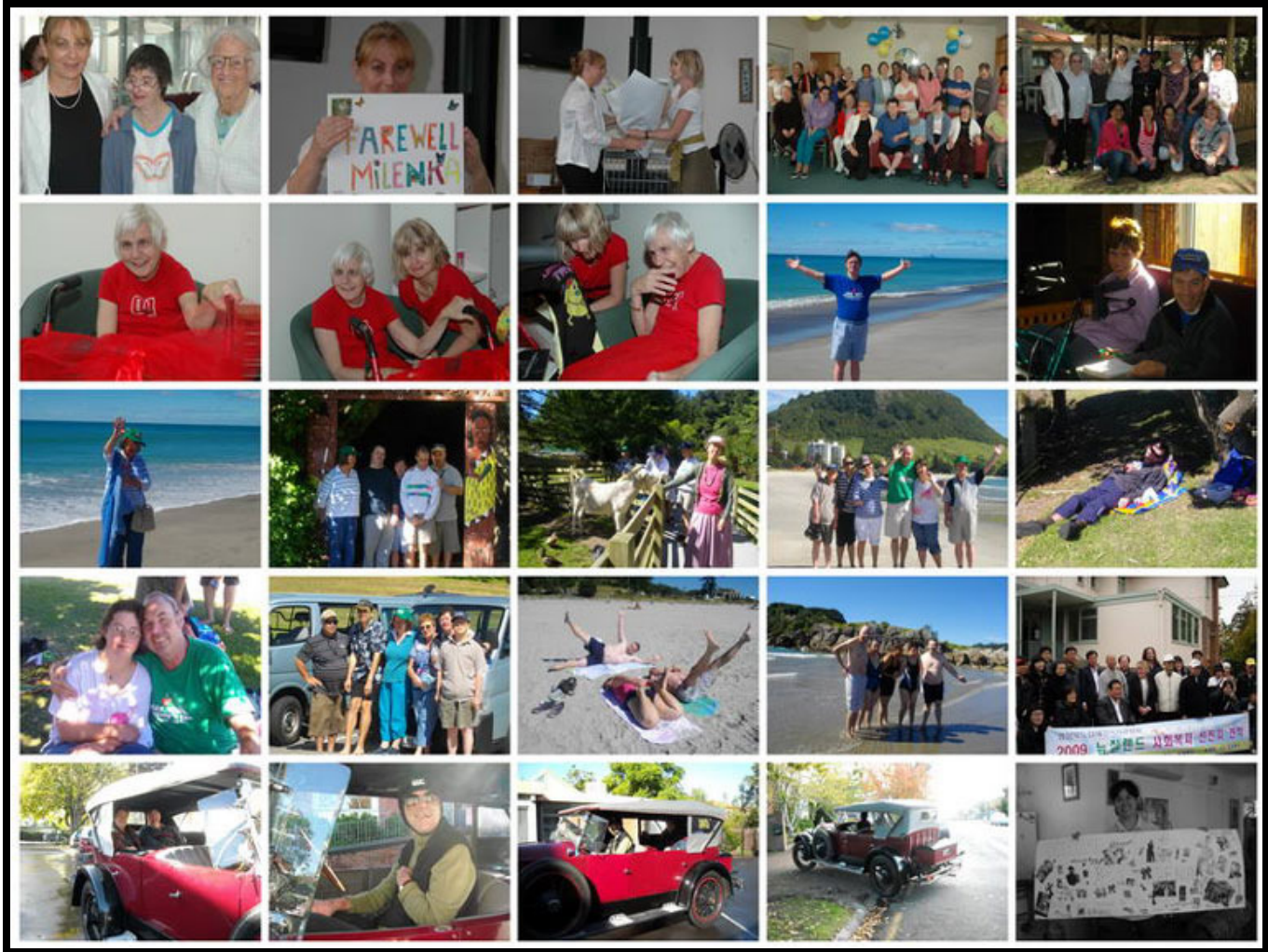
pm – the address of the house is 15 The Strand, Arkles Bay, Whangaparoa (on the waterfront!). I am unable to join you as I will be leaving for America on that same day but Jan Mitchell will host this 'Open Day' of celebration.

In gratitude to the memory of Gwynn and Ian, Jan has suggested (and I heartily agree), that we name the property 'Duncan House'.

Back to reality and what is happening at Ranfurly House – we are in the process of lining and gib-boarding all the bedrooms. So if you are visiting the house over the next few weeks this will explain to

you what is going on down the hallways!

It has been a fun filled year already with so many activities, outings and trips to shows, television recordings of shows, visits to beaches holidays and so much more. To provide you with just a small insight into the life of the students and residents at Ranfurly we have prepared a collage of photographs (not chronologically).



From left to right: Milanka's Farewell Party, Susie's Sixtieth Birthday Celebration, Papamoa Holiday in March, the Korean group of visitors, the Yongju Disability Centre visiting the Activity Centre, (this is now an annual event!), Stephen Cathie achieving his Goal of a ride in a Vintage Car, and R CPA's Welcome Home to Rena from holidaying in China with her family.

In order that you can plan the next six months we have prepared the following schedule of Activity Centre events:

- 🚩 Wednesday 10 June at 10.30 am We are delighted to have the Odyssey House Kapa Haka group provide us with a 'Cultural Performance'. This will be followed by a 'Sausage Sizzle' casual lunch. Hope you can join us
- 🚩 Friday 10 July at 10.30 am Mid Christmas Dinner – Beat off those winter blues and join us for an evening of fun and friendship. Be in early to book your tickets at just \$5.00 each (you know the drill bring a plate and B.Y.O.!).
- 🚩 Thursday & Friday 15 & 16 October at 7.00 pm Instead of our usual end of year drama production – this year we are doing something different the Ranfurly players are producing a series of video productions featuring 'skits' which include advertisements, interviews and short documentaries. Tickets are \$5.00 each and this includes Wine and Cheese.
- 🚩 Friday 4 December at 6.00 pm Art Expo – a wonderful evening of art and crafts produced by Ranfurly students. The evening will also include an 'Art and Movement' performance. Join us for the end

of year chance to catch up and enjoy a glass of wine and mince pies.



From left to right Clive and a Group of Students on a Trip to Wellington visiting the Beehive, meeting Jason Gunn and Sonya Gray at the recording of Wheel of Fortune, Brett Boreham achieving his Goal to ride in a Truck, the Queenstown Holiday staying at Louise Kiely's boutique hotel, the Fair Trade Day at the Activity Centre, the 'Hippies enjoying dinner at CPA, and finally the Students Sketching at Cheltenham Beach. And it is only just six months into the year!

Kind Regards and look forward to seeing you at some of these special events.

Linda Nelson, Manager



Compliments to Melissa, Glynis, Tom and the artists
For the excellent work exhibited at 'Hear me Roar' Art Expo 09



Dear Friends of Ranfurly

It is unbelievable that another year has vanished into thin air since we sent the last mini news letter with the exciting 'Duncan House' Arkles Bay news. This week ended with a very poignant weekend with the ANZAC remembrance services – 'Lest we forget'. Then tragedy struck as New Zealanders were paying tribute to those who lost their lives at Gallipoli ninety five years ago, three more young Air Force men lost their lives in the helicopter crash. Our thoughts are with the families as they try and cope with the terrible news and loss.

Every year the Activity Centre holds a service remembering our own family losses and at the end of the service we visit the Gate of Remembrance on the corner of Ranfurly and Manukau Roads to lay poppies. This year the student's families and staff participated by sending in photos or written words as to whom they had lost and wanted to be remembered from the First or Second World Wars.

There have been more staff changes than usual during this last year. From our residential caregivers we have lost the services of the following people: Jane Thompson, Lynda O'Brien, Sara Russ, and Jenny Strecker. All of these ladies left for varying but valid reasons.



We also lost the services of three staff members from the Activity Centre whom we were sad to see go – Joy Jane, Dagmar Simon and Shirley Lewis (Shirley does pop back to us from time to time to accompany some of the students to the Operatunity concerts). Joy was given thank you gifts for her long service and a quiet farewell which is what she wanted.

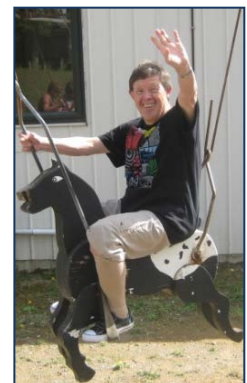
We have however been fortunate to attract some excellent people for other areas of our service. A big welcome to: Diane (Dee) Court, Joyce Kiel, Suzanne Wright, Lee-ann Wightman, Jenny Lambden, Bobbie Rutherford and Janet Ingham.

We are pleased to say that since the purchase of our beach house we have managed to send residents and the occasional students to stay there – almost every week. From Monday to Wednesday each week we take a different group of people for a mini holiday. I might add that our residents are just thrilled when they learn it's their 'turn' again! This we believe benefits everyone as it provides the opportunity for more individual quality time.

In addition to this we have been glad to be able to provide the opportunity (all through our beautiful long summer) to both our residents and students families to stay for long weekends at the property. We have had excellent feedback from them all.

We certainly shall never forget or cease to be grateful to the legacy of dear Gwynn Duncan which has enabled us to have this very desirable property to call our own. In early April our CPA residents enjoyed five days of fun enjoying the beautiful long Indian summer weather at the Pacific Park Christian holiday camp at Papamoa Beach. The staff Dawn and Melanie wrote a diary of the stay which Val has put together along with some fab photos.

These are my favourites, the holiday makers chatting with the locals in the hot pool, and the sheer delight shown by Murray having fun.



A note from Cornwall Park and Emily: I have now been working as Coordinator at Cornwall Park Avenue for over a year, (I can hardly believe it either!) and wanted to let you all know what a wonderful year it has been. The residents (and staff) at Cornwall Park have so much fun and we all find ourselves giggling together at least once a day. There is a strong sense of

family and the staff team's achievements in making this a supportive, fun and loving environment and home for all our residents.



In the last year, Cornwall Park residents have achieved some wonderful goals such as going to the viewing platform at Sky City to admire Auckland's skyline, to a car rally, to a pop music gig, to the observatory to see the night sky and to a nightclub to dance the evening away, to name but a few. We have also celebrated 12 birthdays in style, had a wonderful Christmas BBQ, been to many shows and productions,

have welcomed two new residents to Cornwall Park, Craig and Frances who have very quickly become part of the family. More recently, seven residents were lucky enough to have the opportunity to go on holiday to Papamoa, where they had a wonderful time reliving their youth on a Merry Go Round, seeing the smallest pony in the world (apparently), visiting Whakatane and relaxing in the evenings in a hot spa.

Life style plan goals for the past year have been very interesting. I have just looked through some of the recent goals achieved and to put it mildly can only say WOW, what a selection!

Kelly Tarleton's Underwater World

Co-pilot' ride in a Big Mac truck around Auckland.

Michael Jackson's movie 'This is it' plus many other movies including some in 3D

Cirque du Soleil show

Visit to a brewery / pub for lunch

Ride in an American Vintage car – a 'Paige Daytona '1922

Waiheke Island for the day

Butterfly Creek and the Zoo

Hamilton, to have lunch on the steamboat

Touch Compass Performance of Harmonious Oddity

Sky Tower for the view and a meal

Catch the train at Market Road and travel to Britomart

Four modes of transport in a day: a bus, a train, a ferry and a horse and carriage

Visit Sheep World, 4 kms north of Warkworth

Sledging at Snow Planet

Ardmore Airport to see the War Birds

Ten pin bowling at Manukau Super Strike

Go Karting Experience

Ellerslie horse races for a little flutter and dinner

Play a 9-hole round of golf at a 'proper' golf course

Rainbow's End Theme Park

Visit the Kiwi Valley Farm Park in Henderson Valley

Alexandra Park for the harness racing

Horse riding at Ambury Park

Glenbrook Vintage Railways for a visit to the Café

Food and Wine Show at the ASB showground

The Starlight Express show

Dolphin Explorer for a Whale and Dolphin Safari in the Hauraki Gulf



The most recent was on the last day of March when Christie Ryan met the Shortland Street cast and collected autographs from the Stars! This was all due to Christie's effort of copying into a folder every TV guide, Women's Weekly, Women's Day reviews of the long running show that she could lay her hands on which really impressed the interviewer. It is almost impossible to get past the receptionist in the studio foyer so this was a real coup organised by Sara Russ singing the praises of Christie and helping make her dream goal to meet the cast become a reality.

We must impress on all the families that use our service that the Life Style plan meetings are a very important annual meeting which is seen by the auditors as a measure of the service we provide.

Please help us out on this one official meeting per year by being available in order that they proceed on time within the requirements of the MOH

Christmas now seems in the dim and distant past – a big thanks to Val and Dawn for staffing Duncan House for three weeks from Boxing Day which meant that twenty residents were able during that period to enjoy the summer holiday break at the house. They had a ball and really relaxed just enjoying the holiday ambience, the sea and having fun.



Now onto more mundane things though equally important, the influenza vaccinations were given to all residents (whose families had consented to) and those staff wanting to in March. The Special Olympics prize giving and disco night was held early December with the Indoor Bowls starting again on 22 March at Ranfurly's Activity Centre hall, and the ten pin bowling Ribbon day was held 27 March. Jill who helps the bowlers said there were plenty of ribbons which came home as evidence of their success! The Whangarei Regional Games will be on the 15 May this year.

Staff Training has taken a priority again with a variety of interesting courses including: The University of Auckland Evidence based Practices for Promoting Independence and Enjoyment among People with Severe Intellectual Disabilities, Behaviour Management and Problem Solving, EMA Preparing for an ACC audit, and the MOH health and Disability Standards - Open Disclosure and what it means. We have now planned and arranged



for all staff to attend CPI (Crisis Prevention Intervention) training and a further course on Challenging Behaviour.

The SAMS three day audit from 7-9 December in the Ranfurly home went very smoothly with the auditors speaking to most of the residents, families, and staff. We received an excellent verbal feedback about the services we provide. From the interviews and the auditor's observations, they came to the conclusion that the Residents, staff, families and management had an excellent rapport resulting in a happy

home and lifestyle for the residents. Then on 2 March we were visited by Mark Jorgenson and Anne Bell contract managers from the M.O.H. They congratulated us on our 'outstanding' SAM's Audit result and we were advised that the M.O.H were very aware of the result. Music to our ears!

The Ministry of Social Development Contracts manager visited the Activity service on 30 September and was extremely happy with the service we provide. Their Christmas card to us said 'Hope you have a Merry Christmas, thank you for being there.' Another bonus!

I am pleased to say that the service provided by the Personal Advocacy Trust members has really picked up pace with three new advocacy visitors. Sarah Lassalle has visited us several times in her capacity as the Auckland East District advisor for the Personal Advocacy Trust. Yes finally, you will be pleased to hear that they have something underway for these residents. Sarah will contact you be holding a Personal Advocacy Trust meeting for families in the Activity Centre Hall 15 May 2010. You will be contacted by the trust.

Activity Centre

Drama was hugely successful with a twist this year in that Brett produced three short movies which were shown over two nights on 15 & 16 October in our movie theatre which was set up last year. The Ranfurly Players are a group of diverse performers with intellectual and physical disabilities. With their passionate energy they create a unique and distinctive visual language for video and theatre. The Art and Drama are both focused in getting people to be part of the wider community and bring the wider community into Ranfurly and by the integration we are maximising the potential of students self confidence, etc.

The Central Leader wrote an excellent preview of the Ranfurly Player's movie achievements and the premier of the Movie night 15/16 October. There were three films; Ranfurly Hospital based on their favourite local soap opera, Shortland Street and then we had the excitement of two short films, Jaws and Twilight Zone.

In 2010 the International musician Moby created a contest for his single 'Wait for Me'. Filmmakers were invited to submit a video to the website genero.tv/watch-video/2082. The Ranfurly Players created a wonderful performance in this video competition filmed on the Wild West coast of Aotearoa. Thanks to all of you who voted!

We have recently created our own YOUTUBE page where we have placed quite a variety of drama productions, movie clips and items of interest displaying the students various talents. You can view these at WWW.youtube.com and search for the Ranfurly Players. As we meet new families that are seeking programmes for their family member we have become very aware of the modern family and their expectations towards the latest technology.

We are in the process of working with a graphic designer to create a new pamphlet which features all the Ranfurly services. Our first and only pamphlet was designed in 1996. Our web site is currently being developed which will also provide direct links to our new YouTube site deigned to exhibit our drama highlights and achievements.

Ranfurly has endeavoured to be creative in many areas, be it from Drama through to Art. This year we had our third art exhibition which was a tremendous success. The evening opened with our Contemporary dance group display and displayed a myriad of artistic endeavours from pottery to embroidery, beading mosaics and of course many creative paintings. This is another event where we try and bring the community to us. The last exhibition attendance certainly confirmed this is a reality.

Another new feature was the combination work between the Art department and the computer group in producing an animated movie of Lewis Carroll's classic story of Alice in Wonderland. All the background pictures and Characters have been painted and designed by the students in the art class. From the conception of these scenes to implementing the voiceovers, (which were done by the Staff) the taking of many hundreds of photos: (which were then put into motion by timing each photo to a duration of 0.125 sec) it took 11 months to finish this project.

The weekly Gym Sessions with Patrice our Personal Trainer from 'Gym and Tonic' have been excellent and raised the level of personal fitness for several of the students. Health and Fitness is a big part of the timetable and activities which are met in a variety of ways, swimming, line dancing, gardening, dancing, indoor sports, walking when exploring Auckland, chair exercises and of course gym work with exercises and time on the treadmill etc. Yoga has continued on a weekly basis which provides excellent stretching and relaxation for the students.

We work closely with a wide range of voluntary groups in the community to ensure students are well supported. Sadly it has become increasingly difficult to get employers to offer options to our students, (small employers are more than 90% of the work force in NZ) feel the supervision time and input required to meet the OSH Standards would be too difficult. However we access over fifteen different places in the community for either voluntary or paid work. This year George arranged a new venture in the field of Volunteer work in the community. We are working alongside the Red Cross service each Tuesday helping with the Meals on Wheels programme.

We continue to liaise with and have established good links with the local Te Unga Waka Marae and with wider cultural groups. There is a small group who attend the local Marae on a regular basis for classes in language, kapa haka, history, and cultural awareness of Tikanga Maori. The Government funding subsidy for this course was stopped last year so we are fortunate that the Marae have

decided to sponsor the course along with the student koha – resulting in the students feeling they are part of the Marae whanau.

Glynis's 'Visions of Culture' group and the 'Maori' group recently joined forces to visit the Manurewa Marae to increase their awareness of the group's project on the story of the Manurewa Marae and the legends of the two brothers and their kite.

This year's Activity Centre focus is on placing younger school leavers by becoming more involved with the Transition agencies. This year we are committed to trialling school leavers with the possibility of more to come as there is a chronic shortage of providers in this area. We are keen to increase the ratio of the under 30.s year old in our programmes.

Incidentally we have recently started a small day service in the residential home to cater for those residents who are 65 or over. Funding from the MOSD discontinues once you turn 65. The residents are really enjoying the slower pace with Susanne from 10-3pm daily. They are out and about daily for either a walk, enjoying a coffee, movies and shopping etc.

The girls from Baradeen College continue to come to the Activity Centre each week, and on their 'Social Justice Retreat Day', four, 'year twelve' students visited the Activity Centre for a few hours.

General

On to a lighter note now – I thought this newsletter would be a good opportunity to take you behind the scenes and give you an insight into some of the day to day administration required for the Ranfurly properties in regard to the Repairs and Maintenance! This year along with the usual washing machine and appliance repairs there has been major maintenance and refurbishment completed.

Ranfurly House:

All bedrooms have been Gib-board lined for insulation, plastered and painted making them warmer and the insulation more environmentally friendly. This is certainly a great improvement. 'Virtuoso Landscapes' landscaped the property including the grassed area outside the dining room by the falé. This has made an enormous difference for the summer barbecues. Downstairs, outside the flat, two large planters were placed to add privacy and provide attractive plant screening. Mike and his team in the garden group have worked hard this year landscaping and tidying the grounds making an excellent job of clearing the path down to the Pottery Room. In March/April the hallway medicine cupboard, the cleaning products storage room, and the record cupboard were redesigned. It is all looking very smart now with new flooring and fittings and on the practical side is perfect for administering the resident's medications.

Duncan House (Arkles Bay)

Our friendly builder Don McBeath replaced all the security window stays, replaced the pergola roof, gutted the old shower to create a practical bathroom complete with a walk in shower along with new flooring, a new vanity and safety steel handrails. This is certainly a big improvement both functionally and aesthetically! Please remember that Society members are very welcome to use this facility when it is not in use by residents/students. We are only a phone call away!

A new fence was built to enclose the property, and Armstrong Alarms fitted an alarm system. A major project was undertaken when we elected to be connected to the town water supply. In order for this to occur we replaced the existing water cylinder and installed the new mains pressure cylinder. The water now flows from the taps (instead of trickling). This was another major expense, connecting to the town supply, but a necessary reassurance that with constant visitors during the summer and winter months we are not going to run out of water!

In addition to the major projects that we have undertaken – we have of course tidied the grounds, and had fun buying garden furniture etc. We have had great fun negotiating good deals when shopping for our new furniture, fittings and whiteware. These have included new beds and linen along with dining room, and lounge furniture and a 32 inch LCD television!

Cornwall Park Avenue

This property has had a complete roof refurbishment and we are presently in the process of completing insulating the units by lining and repainting all the units.

You may recall that for some time we have had plans in place for a building extension at Cornwall Park Avenue. We are told that “Patience is a Virtue” and ours appears to be paying off! After a wait of just seventeen short months, we have just received notice from the council that the first stage ‘Planning Consent’ has been approved! One minor hurdle crossed as we run towards the next – waiting for the council to provide approval to the building consent – let’s hope this is not another seventeen months wait!

Activity Centre

Three Mitsubishi Heat/Air Conditioning pumps have been installed in the Activity Centre to ensure warmth in the winter and a cool environment for our students/staff on hot summer afternoons we all remember last year’s rather sweltering art exhibition evening! We have just installed new curtains for the hall chosen to match our red stage curtains! The overhead projector/movie theatre in the hall has proven to be a great asset and is used for movie nights every alternate Friday evening. You are all more than welcome to join the crowd. We are planning another Expo this year and I can promise that the air conditioning will make a big difference to the comfort of the evening for our visitors.

Before we know it, there will be notices for the AGM and the annual Customer Satisfaction Forms sent. These were formatted differently last year to simplify the completion and encourage more dialogue from family/whanau/advocate members.

As you can see time never stands still at Ranfurly so to finish we will provide you with just a small insight into the life of the students and residents at Ranfurly as prepared in a collage of photographs (not chronologically).

Clive has just reminded me to ask you to put in your diary the Mid Year Ball! The theme this year is formal wear on Friday 23 July 6.30pm byo and a plate as usual. (Students free family members \$5.00 per person). Sadly I will miss the fun as long ago I booked a holiday leaving the evening of the 23 July. I will wait in anticipation to hear the gossip and see the photos!

The evening is planned to be a night of fun with the return of the belly dancers and a staff recycle fashion parade with the outfits made from recycled goodies - not the staff! When booking staff will discuss what food to bring but think along the lines of a plate for six people.

On that note,

Kind Regards and God bless you all.

**Linda Nelson
Manager**



DUNCAN HOUSE HOLIDAYS 2009 / 2010



DUNCAN HOUSE HOLIDAYS 2009 / 2010



VARIOUS OUTINGS & ACTIVITIES 2009 / 2010



VARIOUS OUTINGS & ACTIVITIES 2009 / 2010

RANFURLY CARE SOCIETY INC

Newsletter and Christmas Greetings December 2010

Dear friends,

We are well into the spirit of Christmas and are thinking of our friends at this festive time of the year.

We wish to thank all our friends and families for their continued support and input which we need in order to keep our uniqueness and the Ranfurly individuality intact in these ever changing times.

This catch up newsletter provides an opportunity to wish you all a very 'Merry Christmas and a Happy Prosperous New Year'. May the miracle of Christmas fill your heart with warmth and love as Christmas is the time of giving and sharing, for loving and forgiving no matter what our culture or heritage. We are all New Zealanders sharing this wonderful country.

Christmas in New Zealand is less about snow and sleigh bells and more about sun, sand and barbecues in the backyard. We



can see once again that the beautiful

pohutukawa tree, New Zealand's iconic Christmas tree is again this year providing some wonderful displays in full bloom synonymous with the warm and humid early summer and the beach.

Another successful year has passed at Ranfurly Care; many milestones have been achieved in a year marked by the usual varied mix of outings, events and activities which ensure a full and rich life for our residents and the students of the Activity Centre.

Residential: The staffing continues to grow as we strive to achieve excellence in all the services by continually extending the staffing ratios. Ranfurly is very fortunate to have over 40 caring staff who always go the 'extra mile' because of their caring philosophy enhancing the resident's and student's lives. A big

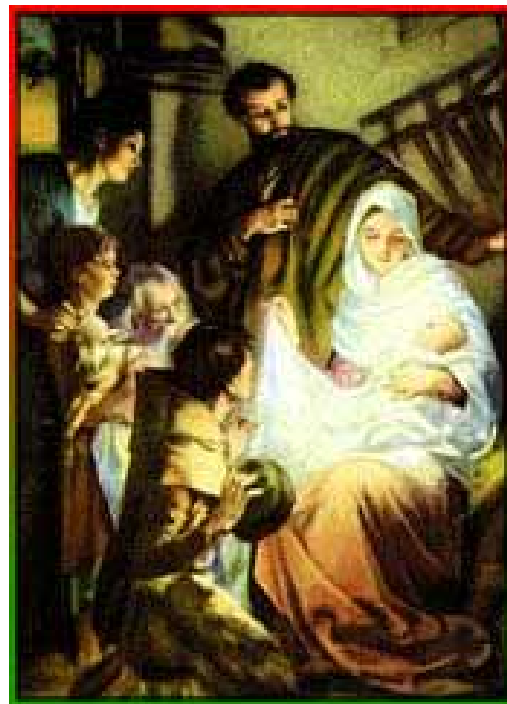
thank you to all staff for enriching the lives of the residents and students.

Emily Conway the Cornwall Park Coordinator is taking maternity leave next year so we all wish her well in the birth of her first child. We are very sorry that due to work overload Diane Wilcox has resigned her position as the flat coordinator. We will always be grateful and will miss her valuable input over the many years since her involvement in establishing the Living skills programme at CPA.

Both residential services are very interactive within the community and excellent records are maintained of all our Weekend and Community Outings. We welcome any one who is interested to come and peruse the pictorial files.

We are very fortunate that Julie Cooke continues to facilitate the Ranfurly Road Residents' Meetings bi monthly – many thanks to you Julie we all appreciate your input.

Enclosed is a selection of Ranfurly Care Residential Outings in 2010 - (I might add that outings to parks and beaches almost always also include a picnic lunch or afternoon tea and an ice cream). The annual 'Elvis in the Park' at Cranwell Park Henderson, Auckland Domain, Eastern Bay Beach,



Cornwall Park, Botanical Gardens, Quirkus Circus at the ASB Stadium Kohi, Bastion Point, Shortland Street Studios, Movies, Asian Food Festival. Numerous productions at the Logan Campbell Centre, Waitangi Day at Browns Bay Beach, Family Fun Day at Cornwall Park, Music in the Park, Chinese Lantern Festival, Auckland Symphony Orchestra, Music in the Park at Auckland Domain, Waiheke Island day trip, Grease production, Ambury Park, Easter Show, Sylvia Park, Ardmore Aerodrome & War Birds Museum, Takapuna Beach, Devonport, Waitakere Stadium – spectators at sports events, Aotea Square Opening Event, MOTAT, Western Springs, Coroglen boat trip, Parnell Rose Gardens, Maraetai Beach, Disney on Ice, RSA – brass band event, Mission Bay, MOTAT Tram Ride and numerous stays at the magical Duncan House at Arkles Bay. AND MANY, MANY, MORE!



Sadly dear Anne Johnson passed away on 27 July 2010; she is sadly missed by us all.

We welcome Rachel Hilton into the Ranfurly house family as a permanent resident. Warren Challinor will be moving into the home as a full time resident in the near future. In the past few months he has been staying 2-3 days a week.

The Ministry of Health audit contracted to the Ministry by EQS was held on 5 August 2010 by Chitra Subramanian, senior auditor and Anne Bishop family member against the NZS 8134: 2008 Standards. Health and Disability Services, Infection Control Standards and Restraint Minimisation and Safe Practice Standards. During the year we have developed three new policies Staff Professional Boundaries and Conduct, Staff Professional Work Ethics and Open Disclosure. The Risk Management Cell (mobile) Telephones Policy, Challenging Behaviour and Restraint Minimisation policies have been updated and all staff have now received training on the new Policies.

Our thanks to Beverley the Duncan House coordinator, for making three scrap booking collages of photos of the Duncan family, they are now hung at Duncan House in order that future members always remember their generous donation. Every week Beverly and Jacquie take four residents/students to stay at Duncan House for a fun relaxing time. These may include pedicures and spa baths, arts and crafts, outings, home baking, barbecues and beach walks. The residents always come back with a big smile on their face and very eager to go again to be spoilt.

Finally we have completed a new pamphlet which features all of the Ranfurly services. I suggested to the Executive it had a touch of gold but alas their reply was you mean a touch of mustard! Never mind I still think it is old gold! (Our first and only pamphlet was designed in 1996). We had hoped to have the new web page completed before Christmas but too many other matters took preference.

You may recall that for some time we have had plans in place for a building extension at Cornwall Park Avenue. We are told that "Patience is a Virtue" and our waiting for a permit is finally paying off! The 'recreation' building is now well underway and the architect overseeing the progress is very pleased with the standard of work of the building company 'Wilkinson'. It is very exciting watching the progress take place in the knowledge we will soon have a communal lounge for shared fun.

In regard to the Personal Advocacy Trust visitors - The Auckland East District advisor for the Personal Advocacy Trust - Sarah Lassally has finally got an excellent service underway and the residents who had joined the Personal Advocacy Trust are finally receiving the Trust service that they purchased.



It is lovely to see our friend Christine Fletcher in her role of patron at the Special Olympic prize giving evening in the hall.

Activity Centre

The Ranfurly Player Film Nights this year were on 30 September & 1 October 2010. The Ranfurly Players had another busy year preparing for the years film nights at Ranfurly 'mini cinema'. These two evenings were an incredible success to the delight of the director and cast! Brett Ihaka produced five short movies which are on sale at \$5.00 each. The short films are: The Interview, The Bus Stop, The Box, Ranfurly Hospital and Wait for Me, which were shown over two nights in our movie theatre which was set up last year. The Ranfurly Players are a group of diverse performers with intellectual and physical disabilities. With their passionate energy they create a unique and distinctive visual language for video and theatre. The Art and Drama are both focused in getting people to be part of the wider community and bring the wider community into Ranfurly and by the integration we are maximising the potential of student's self confidence, etc.

In 2010 the International musician 'Moby' created a contest for his single 'Wait for Me'. Filmmakers were invited to submit a video to the website genero.tv/watch-video/2082. The Ranfurly Players created a wonderful performance in this video competition filmed on the Wild West coast of Aotearoa. Thanks to all of you who voted!

We have recently created our own YOUTUBE page where we have placed quite a variety of drama productions, movie clips and items of interest displaying the students various talents. You can view these at www.youtube.com/ranfurlyplayers where you will find several short videos.

Ranfurly has endeavoured to be creative in many areas, be it from Drama through to Art. This year we had our fourth Art exhibition which was again a tremendous success when friends and families gathered together for an evening of wine and nibbles and a showing of the most creative pieces of art, embroidery, pottery and mosaics that have been created during the year by the Ranfurly Art Students. Most were astounded by the creativity and talent of the students and although the evening was a 'freebe' we welcomed those people that purchased pieces from the students and also those who made donations as this will contribute towards the cost of next year's art expenses.



The Creative Dancers were given their one afternoon to provide entertainment to families and friends alike. They practised throughout the year to accomplish a myriad of complicated moves incorporating their own 'prop's'. They were joined by the Ranfurly singers who performed a melody of popular songs from Elvis to Gospel. Tom Meibusch has produced an excellent music CD recording a selection of ten easy listening songs accompanied by guitar/bass which can be purchased for \$5.00.

(This photo is the creative dance group at Barry's Court motel after the display)

This year Citizen Advocacy celebrated 20 years of promoting Advocacy and building friendships in the Auckland area. Some of the founding members, who were lecturers in the field of Human Services, at the College of Education in Epsom, attended. Special mention must be made to Ray and Trish O'Brien who were the guest speakers for the conference "make a Difference" held at Barry's Court. The Ranfurly movement group under the guidance and artistic choreography of Glynis had been working on a creative piece which they performed at the conclusion of the concert. This work was an example of the excellence which can be achieved with support motivation.



The weekly Gym Sessions with Patrice our Personal Trainer from 'Gym and Tonic' have been excellent and raised the level of personal fitness for several of the students. Health and Fitness is a big part of the timetable. The creative activities which are met in a variety of ways, include swimming, line dancing, gardening, dancing, indoor sports, and walking when exploring Auckland, chair aerobics and of course gym work with exercises and time on the treadmill etc. Yoga has continued on a weekly basis which provides excellent stretching and relaxation for the students.

We continue to liaise with and have established good links with the local Te Unga Waka Marae and with wider cultural groups. There is a small group who attend the local Marae on a regular basis for classes in language, kapa haka, history, and cultural awareness of Tikanga Maori. Glynis's 'Visions of Culture' group and the 'Maori' group recently joined forces to visit the Manurewa Marae to increase their awareness of the group's project on the story of the Manurewa Marae and the legends of the two brothers and their kite.

This year's the Activity Centres focus has been on, 'placing' younger school leavers by becoming more involved with the Transition Agencies. We have had four transition students at the centre this year. A big welcome to Nicole Dick, Alex Gamage, Ian Millar and Keisha Marks who will be starting after leaving school in the New Year. We are keen to increase the ratio of the fewer than thirty year olds in our programmes.

On 10 December Surinder Punjya CEO of Nesbitt Centre who are service providers for people with disabilities in Hong Kong and Gary O'Noy, CEO of APET, came to look at the Ranfurly services as Surinder is looking to expand services and was seeking new ideas etc. He presented us with an attractive plaque in appreciation that when translated means friendship – a nice gesture.

A Korean Group that works with the disabled people in their own country visited the Activity Centre 28 May 2010. They have visited here on several occasions in previous years and each time they have given us a small 'souvenir' depicting Korean culture.

We are very pleased that two pupils from Baradene Girls School continue on a weekly basis as volunteers in the Activity Centre. We have also had visitors from Epsom Girls Grammar.

On 17 December the Students were treated to a formal sit down lunch and Santa's visit – courtesy of the staff – this year the staff really 'outdid' themselves. A great time was had by all! By the time you receive this newsletter some of you will have enjoyed (on Monday 20 December) our 'modern' version of the annual Ranfurly Nativity. We hope you enjoyed it as much as the actors enjoyed performing in it! The Student's last day will be on Wednesday 22 December (staff will be here on 23 December to do the final 'clean up' for the year). The New Year starts on Monday 20 January 2011, however students may return on 17 January if it is essential to their families. Limited numbers only can be accepted as there will only be a 'skeleton' staff here. Onwards and upwards then as we strive to provide an excellent service moving forward with new ideas and challenges for 2011.

Our condolences go to many families as sadly we have lost many friends this year. *All those we love remain with us, for love itself lives on, cherished memories never fade because a loved one's gone. Those we love can never be more than a thought apart. For as long as there is a memory they will live on in your heart*



Merry Christmas to you all from Linda and the team



It is that time of the year when we catch up with our friends and family to send wishes for a very

'MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR'

It's a special time of year
A family time and one to share
With those we hold most dear
Christmas brings us closer
And like this wish it brings
Some very precious memories
And life's most happy things

Another year is disappearing - full of highs and sadly some lows and just not enough hours in a day, and those same hours appear to have wings! 2011/2012 is a special time - the twentieth anniversary of the inception of RANFURLY CARE SOCIETY INC on 1 February 1992.

Therefore let's have some nostalgia by reminiscing on some of the early days. Enclosed are some highlights from our very first newsletter 4 March 1992 and the first Christmas Newsletter dated December 1992.....

Once again we welcome you to the family of Ranfurly House. This news letter is a little early but we wanted to let our friend know about our monster jumble sale which is to take place on Saturday 14 March at 9.00 am to be held at Ranfurly Road by the public reserve. When we took over Ranfurly Home we inherited an Opportunity Shop full of second hand clothing, books etc. Because we need to clear this area for future plans we decided to hold a sale whilst the weather is good. We pray for a fine day! You may want to dispose of surplus goods and clothing you no longer need. Perhaps there might be something you want to purchase?



News Items; The Mayoress of Auckland, Mrs. Colleen Mills has visited our home and consented to be our patroness. She has also attended an informal morning tea with a group of friends who are hoping will be hosting fundraising activities in the near future.

The Eden/Epsom Jaycees visited the site on Sunday 21 March and propose adopting us as their project for the year. They will present their proposal at our next ordinary meeting. This is great news. Their organisation has fifty members from all walks of life. It would appear that their 'project' will be restoration of either the hall or vocational centre. Their help will be gratefully accepted.

Epsom Girls Grammar visited to try to set in motion and implement a 2-hour weekly course – social integration with people who are intellectually challenged.

Paul Lock from the Justice Department sent two teams of PD workers who have done an excellent job (1) cleaning out the hall and (2) clearing the grounds,

Chas Watters is lending Ranfurly Care a 1989 Toyota Corolla until August which will help us with transport. Many thanks to Chas for this generous gesture. We take this opportunity of extending to Chas and his family our sincere condolences in the tragic loss of their daughter Cushla. Words are just not adequate in this instance.

Sunday 12 April the soprano Patricia Swift is giving a concert at the Dio Music Centre. There will be musical items, wine and nibbles between 5 to 7 pm. This is a fund-raising function for us, being arranged by Hilary Reid.

Country & Western Club are holding a benefit concert for Ranfurly Care on Wednesday 11 March at Manukau Intermediate School at 7.30 pm. On 26th we held a very successful Country & Western night attended by 90 people. It was a lovely summer evening and good to see our lounge utilised in this manner. The evening finishes with Ian singing the final song "It's a Small World".

There will be a CPR evening held at Ranfurly in the near future. Are you interested in attending and making this an educational and social evening?

Entertainment, Recreation and Leisure

Helena Matheson from Special Olympics has been taking Selwyn and Janet to Indoor Bowls on Wednesday afternoon. Our residents go to Special Olympics swimming on a Wednesday evening and Sunday afternoon. Bensons was held on 21 February. On the 29th we went to the Dragon Boat Festival and on 30th a group visited the China Markets.

We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of people who have donated various items. Mrs. Noeline Palmer gave a stereo, radio and cassette, Women's Auxiliary a cheque for \$950, a duvet, towels and linen, Bob Johnston vegetables, Margaret Van Veen scales, Edmonds cookery books and PVC Glue, Teddy Martin two large tubs, Pat Cook miscellaneous household items, several other people have bought supplies of linen, china, heater etc.

We are very busy setting up the Vocational Centre to start on 1 April this year - you will receive further correspondence relating to this service.

Kind regards to all from Linda Nelson



December 1992 - Hello Friends

This time of the year is so busy for us all; we are having our festivities on 18th and 20th December. There will be a small group celebrating Christmas here.

We are planning a summer holiday for our people in the New Year but on 5 January four residents are going away with Margaret Whitta for 7 days touring Rotorua and surrounding areas. Mrs. Lampitt and Dougie are also going. Speaking of Mrs. Lampitt this is an opportune time to thank her together with her group of friends for their tireless work, street sales and general fund raising throughout the year. There is a group of ladies we know as the Ladies Auxiliary who have worked tirelessly raising funds for those special extras. Throughout this last year when we were feeling our way financially

their presence and contributions have brought much pleasure. The visible culmination of their efforts was the Activity Centre Christmas Party. Our sturdy Father Christmas needed a helper with his laden sack which contained individually chosen gifts for each person. The lovely afternoon tea was also part of their contribution. We can't say a big enough thank you to these wonderful people.

In the 'Spirit of Christmas giving' would anyone have a hand lawn mower which would like a new address? We guarantee that the work will be light and it will receive lots of TLC.

The official opening of the Epsom Community Constables office was held on a wet Sunday afternoon. The Minister of Justice, Doug Graham assisted Christine Fletcher who officiated. Once the formalities were over everyone enjoyed a delicious BBQ provided by the Eden/Epsom Lions.

On Saturday 14 November the day dawned fine for Leon (staff member) and Jane's wedding. There was great excitement at Ranfurly House as everyone dressed in their best to greet the newlyweds and to have a photo taken with them. The residents were thrilled with the parcels of sweets that Jan and Leon had wrapped for each one. In return our people showered them very liberally with rice. Leon and Jane beat a retreat to their reception which was held in the beautifully transformed Activity Centre.

Now to more mundane matters. You will be interested to know that Total Mobility has been transferred from Land Transport to A.R.C. It will take some months to affect the changeover. Our interview with the Select Committee relating to our submission on the Health and Disability Bill went well. The panel included Sonia Davis and our friend Christine Fletcher.

On 19th December 1992 Gerard Kiely's brother Bernard will be ordained as a priest in St. Patrick's Cathedral. He will then be known as Father Bernard. All the Kiely family will be participating and it will be a time of great joy and rejoicing. Gerard made his first communion last week. He is very excited about the celebration.

Activity Centre

Well time has flown again and it's nearly Christmas. We have had a busy year, lots of fun time and many varied things happening. Some of our people have been gardening and mowing lawns so if you need any help please phone Leon and arrange what is needed to arrange a suitable time. The woodwork shop is close to running. It is great to see what can be done with a scroll saw - thanks to the Hillary Trust. As well we have purchased a new sewing machine, over locker, basket ball hoop, basket ball, poles and ball, volley ball net and badminton set, a Weider gym and a potter's wheel. Our new staff member Gordon Ham is very creative as a potter therefore with a potter's wheel in place we have been working with this new concept by creating more things for the Craft Shop. We have also made Christmas Crackers, Christmas Boxes, homemade chocolates and many other things for our shop so come and see.

Recently we visited the shire horses and went to the Hot Pools at Waiwera all in one great day. We have had sausage sizzles and salad days, and other activities like morning teas in the park. The end of year function which is going to be put on by the Ladies Auxiliary with Santa Clause is on 18 December from 1.30 to 3.30pm. We will close on 22 December and re open for 1993 on 11 January with a skeleton staff for those who need the break. Our full staff returns on 18 January 1993.

This month we are hoping to establish an extended volunteer network with the objective of being able to spend more individual quality time to achieve their personal goals.With all best wishes from the staff: Leon, Mo, Lorna, Gordon, Jane and Jan for the Christmas break and we will see you next year.

I have enjoyed seeing my dream become a reality. The greatest reward of my job is the love of the people and the fact that Ranfurly is now home to many happy residents. I take this opportunity to wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year..... Linda Nelson

FROM THE PAST

Dear Friends

As 1992 draws to a close we are all entitled to feel a great deal of satisfaction with the achievements of our society in the last year. Every member without exception has contributed to our success and we can all feel very proud of our property and the happy optimistic atmosphere it has.

Your Trustees and Committee members have worked tirelessly raising funds and organising the refurbishments with great success. The staff headed by our one in a million manager, have given us a wonderful team of dedicated friends for our residents and those who enjoy our day programmes and for those who live at Ranfurly and attend the programmes. They are such happy 'fun' people that have given us all much more than we have given them.

Merry Christmas

Jan Mitchell

President

Just out of interest over the past twenty years Ranfurly has been the chosen venue for four staff weddings.

Back to the present 2011



We often take advantage especially on a hot summer day to use the beautiful Cornwall Park - this photo was taken on 11 March 2011 when the students were enjoying a picnic taken in Cornwall Park on a hot summer's day



Community Interaction is an Activity Centre priority so to give you an idea and name just a few:

Wallace Art Centre, Auckland Museum, Westpac Helicopters, Clovercrest Donkey Farm, many, many movies, Tip Top Factory Bay of Islands and Papamoa holiday, fishing at a variety of locations, walking at the beaches, reserves, Waitakere Ranges, and visiting numerous shopping malls, Butterfly Creek, Auckland Observatory, MOTAT, Waipa Delta Cruise, Zoo, Chocolate Factory, Waiheke, Island, Vietnamese Water Puppets and Musical theatre at Aotea, Alexandra Park Trots, Maidment Theatre, Botanical Gardens, Home League mid winter dinner, Mangere Education Centre, Glass Blowing Gallery, Six Operatunity Concerts, Ardmore Airport, 45 Marae, TAPAC at Hawkins Centre, Entertainment at Aotea Square, Circus Seminar Workshop, Volunteer Group to OXFAM to pack cookies, and the Auckland Arts Festival.

Congratulations to Bruce Wensor for his 45 years of dedicated service working at Work Force. At the presentation ceremony on 9 September 2011 Bruce was awarded a certificate, flowers and a very generous gift in recognition of his contribution to the Coy. Following the presentations we were invited to a luncheon at the Landing Seafood restaurant, Onehunga. Bruce is finally retiring at the end of the year to attend the Activity Centre daily.



As you can see from these photos the Recreation room at Cornwall Park is a real hit and Party Central where they all enjoy the facility. They have Sky TV, plenty of space to dance or participate in one of their favourite pastimes to sing along with the Karaoke.....

Laan – is the Matriarch of the Residents at Cornwall Park – she is our eldest resident who turned 74 in October this year. (Laan moved into the Ranfurly home in June 1998.) Below is a glimpse through a small window of Laan's activities over the past three months taken from her diary and illustrating just how full her life still is.

August 2011

- 7 Laan enjoyed St. George's church service and Communion
- 14 Laan had a good laugh at the live show at Logan Campbell's theatre of Robinson Crusoe.
- 28 Laan went out with staff to achieve her goal. She played BINGO at the Casino – though she did not win anything. Then she had a delicious lunch at Fortuna Restaurant and lots of photographs were taken.

September

- 10 Laan had a great afternoon visiting the Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki, the home of the visual arts with a collection numbering over 15,000 pieces of interesting works.
- 17 Laan loved watching the wonderful opening ceremony of the 'Rugby World Cup' on Television.
- 24 Laan visited the Mega Zone where she watched her friends driving the crashing 'bumper cars'

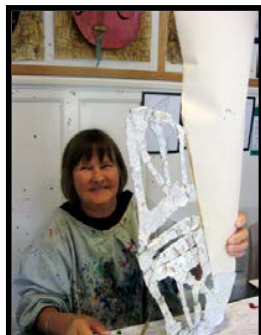
October

- 8 Laan watched most of the Rugby World Cup game - fell asleep watching the Finals, there was a big smile in the morning when she found out that the All Blacks had won!
- 15 Laan's birthday was celebrated with the staff and residents of CPA in the recreation room. Her sister Wah bought a 'yummy' birthday cake and her brother Sunny took her out to lunch – a magic day.
- 22 Laan went to the movies at Sylvia Park – where she enjoyed watching the 'Smurfs'.
- 29 Laan went on an outing to Ambury Park. She loved the animals and all the entertainment on the Annual Open Day at the park. Awesome weather – great day!





This page is a combination of community Outings..... and some of the most amazing artworks.....!
 Congratulations to Melissa and artists.....
 Unbelievably sixteen of our staff have worked at Ranfurly for more than ten years. Four of those staff members for more than eighteen years and myself twenty years.





The planning of our Societies Twenty Year Anniversary Celebration is a gratifying journey of reflection, progress, growth, development and remembrance of the special times that we shared. Part of the growth has been the purchase of two additional properties at Cornwall Park Ave from IHC in 1998 and Duncan House at Arkles Bay in 2009, the later was thanks to the generosity of Gwyn Duncan whose son Ian lived with us and who had enjoyed the Activity Centre services from inception. Thanks also to the generosity of Ian Broadfoot; Duncan House has been completely repainted inside and out including the roof! It is looking good as you can see in the photo! The weekly visitors from our services love the peaceful environment and e 'pampering' they receive from Beverly and Jacquie.



DUNCAN HOUSE COLLECTION OF MAGIC DAYS RELAXING and ENJOYING THE BEACH LOCATION



Now we should have a look at what the residents have been up to during 2011 – in September Auckland hosted the 'Rugby World Cup'. What a magical time, when Auckland was transformed - with a waterfront facelift for Party Central and YES we did win after the breathtaking final game! Talk about nerves – one could hardly bear to watch!



MORE COMMUNITY OUTINGS and this year's SPECIAL OLYMPICS AWARDS



We were very excited to receive a visit from her very gracious 'Royal Highness - the Queen' (a la Clive) on 29 April. The BBC coverage of the Royal Wedding took over our lives as we watched Kate and William marry - there is nothing like an English Royal Wedding with all the tradition, pomp and ceremony.



Another gracious lady we all know and love – Phyllis Green it is our joy to have you as part of Ranfurly family!

The photographs shown in this newsletter are just a small fraction of the myriad of photographs that are taken annually of our students and residents. You will be aware that we use them to produce the annual Certificates of Achievement, but we can arrange for interested families to produce a DVD for their home viewing!

We must not forget at this point to make a special mention of two new residents that have joined us this year – Warren Challinor – who came to live with us in February and is living at Ranfurly Road, and Anne Fitzpatrick who came in October and will be living at Cornwall Park Avenue.

As many of you will know, the Activity Centre is famous for its 'Theme Days' which occur throughout the year. This year was a bumper year as you will see from the following events that were 'themed'!

A visit from the 'Queen', the ANZAC Service, the Mid Winter in July, the Circus Seminar Workshop in July, Fire Safety Day and the Auckland Art Festival in March. The Fair Trade Day - May, the Fear Factor Day – June. The Circus Seminar Workshop - July, SPCA Cupcake Day - September and the Pool Championships in October. In addition to the themed days we had full days of 'Special' birthdays at the Activity Centre for Clare O'Connell – it was her fortieth, Christie Ryan – it was her thirtieth, Stephen Collyns it was his fiftieth, Michael Van Veen – it was his fiftieth and Anna Hodson it was her fortieth whew!

The centre has another activity which it embraces with tremendous pride – it's called 'Pool'. This sport has a dedicated following of students who take their game very seriously and compete regularly in the Pool Championships! This year's finalists were Peter Mowday and Karyn Hutley – with Karyn taking the title – first time for a woman. Well Done Karyn!

Of the 'highs' we have been privileged to experience and report to you. We must now reflect on the 'lows' we have had to face both collectively as a country and in our own personal lives. We are of course remembering 22 February the Christchurch Earth Quake killing 182 people our worst natural disaster. This event reminds us only too well of our own fragile mortality and we send condolences to the families of those we have lost this year. They are:

Lex Rimmer	Resident & Student	January
Sharon Ranby	(mother of Frances)	April
Peter McCormack	(father of Mark)	June
Eric McCamish	Student	June
Bob Johnson	(father of Anne)	November
Mary Fitzpatrick	(mother of Anne)	October



We now remind you of some important dates:

Student Lunch	16 December
Christmas Celebrations	21 December at
Activity Centre Closes	23 December
Activity Centre Re Opens	23 January 2012



At the last parents meeting we were discussing the enormous amount of community outings and visits that the residents participate in their leisure time. All at the meeting concurred that they did not experience a fraction of the outings themselves and were very happy for their residents to have the opportunity to do so. Selections of the places the residents have been over this past year are included below:

Botany Downs, Parnell Rose Gardens, Auckland Domain, West Haven Marina, Browns Bay, Eastern Beach, Orewa to listen to the Barber Shop Chorus, Muriwai Beach, Naval Base Museum, visit Cafe at Torpedo Bay, Glenbrook Vintage Railway, A & P Show, Cultural Festival, Music in the Park at Cornwall Park, Chinese Lantern Festival in Albert Park Elvis in the Park Concert, Long Bay, Joy Ministries picnic at Mt Smart, Rose Gardens at Parnell, Takapuna Pump House, Half Moon Bay to watch the junior sailing club races, Howick and Cockle Bay, Papakura Ribbon Day for Ten Pin Bowling, Ambury Park Farm Fun, Grease Show, the Teddy Bears Picnic at Western Springs, Remuera Lions Magic Show at the Greenlane Show Grounds, Viaduct Basin, Bastion Point and the Auckland Domain, Takapuna Pump House, Botanical Gardens for a picnic lunch, Cornwall Park for afternoon tea, visit the café at Mission Bay and lunch in a pub – fish and chips! 'Gulliver's Travels', Movie Mama Mia, the World Festival of Magic, Disability Arts Festival at Corbans Estate Henderson, Joy Ministry Disco, Viaduct Basin tours, Wynyard Quarter and tram rides, Indoor Bowl Tournament Albany, Sylvia Park Shopping Mall, Kumeu Showground's, The Best of the West Festival, Burger King, Westhaven Marina, Jellicoe Park, Ten Pin Bowling Tournament Panmure, Pukekohe Market and Glenbrook Vintage Railway. Wow - as you can see the resident's weekends are extremely full and interesting.



Once again a big thank you to the staff, for so often going that extra mile to further enhance the resident's and student's lives. A big thank you to all those friends and families of Ranfurly who have supported us with your thoughts, kind words and deeds or by financial assistance. God bless you all. From Linda

THE ACTIVITY CENTRE MID YEAR DINNER – AS YOU CAN SEE IT WAS A FUN NIGHT FOR EVERYONE!



Well my friends I hope you will enjoy this informal pictorial journey of Ranfurly's memories from 1991 to 2012. The residents and students will love looking at the photos. When designing the format I decided to create a simple record by collating the newsletters and photos distributed to our service users and friends over the years.

In 1992 they were produced on a 'typewriter' by my neighbour, Jean Ormord. We then progressed to a 'computer' (that was back in the day of Dos) the now prehistoric computer operating system. To enable us to get the copies into the format to save as a PDF, Chris and Kirsty retyped most of the information up to the year 2000. Even though this has been proof read many times, due to computer error we are frustrated that the changes do not always take effect. Probably because we are trying to combine multiple formats which the confuser does not like! The hard part was looking for the pictures which I have been scanning in over these past months. Sadly I cannot locate some of the earlier ones so they remain in black and white. In later years we have accumulated thousands of pictures so trust everyone is included. Fortunately we had the resident/students scrapbooks to locate some of the original copies!

I am sure because of its volume and computer problems this record will still have typing and grammatical errors for which we apologise. The staff's holiday diaries delivered in this record are in the original format that was written by the staff to accompany the photos – some tales are a tad long but they relive the moment.

The following is the President, Ross Green's report and the Manager's report provided for the 2011 AGM, which in time when looking back will seem as strange to the reader as do our first newsletters to us now.....

Ranfurly Care Society

Chairman's Report October 30, 2011

Welcome to you all to another Ranfurly AGM and my apologies that I cannot be with you today.

It gives me great pleasure to again report that your Society is in very good heart and continuing to enjoy robust financial health.

Although we don't circulate the accounts to members, they are of course available and you are welcome to a copy if you would like. For the last financial year to June 2011 we recorded a modest surplus of \$5,000 on total income of \$1.8 million. I know this wouldn't be very impressive if we were running a small business but in our case it includes an allowance for depreciation of \$212,000 so the cash surplus is indeed very healthy.

Even after purchasing Duncan House and continuing to invest in all our property assets and ensuring we keep on top of the maintenance, the bank balance remains very healthy. The total assets of Ranfurly are approximately \$5.5 million.

The major project this year was building a new recreational room at Cornwall Park Avenue. We had a couple of planning challenges to finally get this project consented but in the end it is a terrific addition to Cornwall Park and gives our residents there an area where they can congregate and socialize.

But a sound financial position doesn't matter without the people. We are a caring society and we are only as good as our people. As you would expect, the biggest single expense we incur is wages and salaries. I like to think that an indication of what kind of employer we are is the number of "long-termers" – right now half of our staff have been with Ranfurly for 10 years or more. I hope we can continue to attract and retain good people because that is the key to our continued success.

With our 20th anniversary looming, it is a time to look back, to reflect and to give thanks. I know Jan is going to look back on how it all started and how we got to here. For my part, I know that the people who are no longer with us but who were sitting around the table at the first Ranfurly meeting – which was chaired by my father John Green and held at my parents flat in Remuera – would be smiling a very satisfied smile right now if they could see how Ranfurly has grown and prospered.

Thank you to all the members for your continuing support.

Ross Green

THE MANAGER'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE 2010/2011 FINANCIAL YEAR

2012 is the twentieth anniversary of the inception of this non profit care facility – Ranfurly Care Society Incorporated. The opening of the Ranfurly Road house to eight residents occurred on the first February 1992 and the Activity Centre Day Service the following month.

In view of the Christmas/New Year break our plan is to hold the Anniversary Celebrations in March 2012 which will include a variety of activities and events.

The planning of our Societies Twenty Years Anniversary Celebration is a gratifying journey of reflection, progress, growth, development and remembrance of the special times that we have shared together.

The first meeting to form our own Parent's Society was held on 7 July 1991. This followed my trip to Wellington on 28 June 1991 when I represented the Cornwall Branch IHC Committee at the IHC's Annual General meeting.

At that meeting Roderick Dean, President and J.B. Munroe C.E.O ignored the Cornwall Branch's unremitting representation of their unanimously approved motions which upheld, the principals and beliefs held by the members. They completely overturned the wishes of the branch and families and passed a seven part resolution to sell the Ranfurly property.

Incensed, and driven by the injustice of their arrogant decision I called a meeting 7 July with as many of the parents I could contact within our Branch. We agreed and made plans to form our own Society and keep the Ranfurly property under our control, which incidentally had already been financed by residents' families. On the 7th November, John Radley, Solicitor, finally received the news from I.H.C.'s solicitor that our offer of \$665,000 to purchase the property had been accepted. Their determination to prevent us from procuring the property is a story in its self.

At a meeting attended by thirty two interested families held on 10 November 1991 chaired by the newly appointed President John Green, I reported Ranfurly was now registered as an Incorporated Society (applied for by twenty one foundation members) with Charitable Status on 13 September 1991 It had been 135 days since the I.H.C. resolution to sell the property was passed on 28 June 1991.

At this meeting Dr. Bill Shief raised a query as to how our philosophy would differ from I.H.C.'s philosophy. We replied that we proposed to 'create an extended family unit', rather than a management unit. That philosophy materialised into a reality by the "*creation of our extended family home*", an achievement the Society Foundation Members can be very proud of.

Ranfurly's ongoing focus is to ensure Ranfurly remains different to '*just another service provider*'.

Our growth and success is due in part to those initial 21 families who supported Ranfurly's philosophy and values. It is pleasing to note that we now have a total of 127 members.

The 'First Ranfurly Special General Meeting' was held on 15 December 1991 attended by thirty two family members in order to make changes to the newly formed Rules of the Society kindly prepared at no cost by Simpson, Grierson, Butler and White organised by Mr. Martin.

Through Graeme Reid's initial introduction some Government MPs of 1991 supported our aspirations by taking appropriate actions to remove the obstacles and allow us to repurchase the property from I.H.C. They were: Christine Fletcher, MP who later assisted us as in her capacity as the Mayor of Auckland, and also in time became our patron, Dame Jenny Shipley, Sir Douglas Graham, and Sir Rob Muldoon. In addition we must also acknowledge the many people who assisted and made Ranfurly possible. They were to name a few: John Radley solicitor, Greg Rathbun our accountant, the Woman's Auxiliary, Eden Epsom Jaycees, Angela D'Audney and 12B, and the continued support of all the Executive and Society Members.

We could not have managed in the early years without substantial financial contribution from

benevolent donors such as: ASB Trust, Chas Watters, May Harvey, Graeme Reid, Doreen Bryant, Pauline Brookes, the Duncan Family, Maurice Paykel Trust, Fisher Trust, Royal Oak Trust, Lion Foundation, Southern Region Trust, T&M Carr and Sir E Davies Trusts, Lottery Board, John Logan Campbell Trust, Charles Scott Charitable Trust, Jr Mc Kenzie Trust, Felicia Worley and recently her husband Ian Sinclair Broadfoot. We cannot thank enough all those additional friends and families of Ranfurly who have also supported us with financial assistance initially and over the following years.

Jan Mitchell a dedicated member of the Society and long term serving Executive President/Member for twenty years captured the history of the I.H.C.'s resistance to sell Ranfurly in her booklet *Giving Families Choices 1991 – 2002* which she compiled for the occasion of the tenth year Ranfurly Anniversary. It also endorses the families' belief that they have the right to make key decisions affecting the lives of their family member without compromising lifestyle, protection and safety.

IHC's philosophy includes the housing of up to five residents in small residential homes with just one staff member on duty. We believe this does not provide for sufficient choice or adequate safety for both the residents and staff.

Our philosophy written in 1992 remains unchanged

We believe in the value of relationships and in promoting a harmonious family environment for our Residents. We encourage full family support and involvement on a daily basis. We employ caregivers who are committed to providing continuity of care in a secure environment. These caregivers are strongly encouraged to work in a supportive rather than a directive role.

We work to integrate residents in the local and wider community and provide a stimulating and enjoyable choice of programme to suit a diverse range of resident needs. Residents are consulted and services are provided in a culturally appropriate manner, consistent with the Treaty of Waitangi and assisted by local hapu.

During the AGM it is appropriate for members to hold a minutes silence in remembrance of all those wonderful families/friends/residents/ students and staff who have given so much and sadly are no longer with us.

Our aspiration of running our own Society has succeeded beyond our wildest dreams

Financial and Administration 2010/2011

All financial members have been provided with the preliminary and final notice of the impending AGM on 30 October 2011.

Our appointed auditors and chartered accountants, Gilligan Sheppard, audit Ranfurly's records on an annual basis. The Financial Accounts are prepared to comply with accepted accounting practice. The Accounting Factory is contracted on a monthly basis to implement the data entry for the General Ledger, debtor and creditor accounts.

This year's audit was completed late September. It is examined on a test basis, from evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the Financial Reports. The financial audit took place on the 20 August with Kobus from Gilligan Sheppard. The Executive have approved the accounts and the 2011/2012 Budget at their meeting on 10 October 2011.

The current Ministry of Health (M.O.H.) contract requires six monthly reporting. Work and Income increased the Invalid Benefit for all residents, to \$191.05 per week.

The Ministry of Social Development (M.O.S.D.) continues to provide 80% contribution towards the Activity Centre funding. Their contract is required to be renewed on a two yearly basis and accordingly we will re apply for funds again in 2012.

Property Income consists of rentals received from the Residents, a Rented Flat to a staff member above the Activity Centre Building, the Activity Centre, a Rental Garage and Rentals from the Offices tenanted by the NZ Police for their Community Constable, Special Olympics and Florentine tea shop who has a parking agreement to rent two car spaces in the lower driveway adjacent to the Community Police Office - who are happy with this arrangement.

The estate of Ian Sinclair de Berri Broadfoot the husband of Felicia (nee Worley) generously gifted

\$25,000 to the Society which we received in January 2011. These funds were gratefully used to paint and upgrade the exterior of the beach property at Arkles Bay.

Since the last AGM fifteen groups, family, friends and staff have stayed at Duncan House. We have gratefully accepted any donations for their weekend stays at Arkles Bay, which have been applied towards the running costs and maintenance of this lovely property.

The annual Customer Satisfaction Forms covering all services, Residential Care, Respite Care and the Activity Centre, have been prepared and will be sent to families. The replies will be analysed to take into account all comments that may require a response or some new direction.

The Monthly Quality Assurance Report that summarises all aspects of our service are provided to the Executive for their approval at each meeting and summarised annually.

Service Provision

The manager is accountable to the Executive Committee and carries the overall responsibility to provide and maintain excellent service provisions in all areas. We have a committed team of dedicated professional staff to assist as acknowledged by the auditors. Their role is in conjunction with complying with the Ranfurly Philosophy and Policy guidelines established to monitor the various services we provide to the wider community. These strategies must also meet our contractual obligations to the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Social Development.

All Ranfurly services are very interactive within the community and excellent records are maintained of all our Weekend and Community Outings. These records may be perused by anyone that is interested. Both the residents and their family members hold separate bi-monthly meetings.

Activity Centre

This year our focus continues to be on placing younger school leavers through the Transition Agencies.

The Activity Centre now provides a day care programme for 63 students with a structured service Monday to Friday. Our Activities and Programmes are achieved through the implementation of the structured timetable. This is formatted to involve all students and the staff members into two basic groups per day. Our busiest day is now on a Monday with 51 attendees and on the other days up to 45 students.

This year our drama teacher Brett Ihaka and his assistant in performing arts, Glynis, has once again been involved in making a variety of short films using the talents of the Ranfurly Players and many extras! The movie evenings were a great success with the drama and comedy scripts.

In 2010 the International musician Moby created a contest for his single 'Wait for Me'. The Ranfurly Players created a wonderful performance in this video competition filmed on the Wild West coast of Aotearoa. We have recently created our own YOUTUBE page where we have placed quite a variety of drama productions, movie clips and items of interest displaying the students various talents. In addition there are now, two Creative Blogger sites for the mosaic and art rooms. In 2011 a new pamphlet was designed and completed.

The weekly Gym Sessions with Patrice our Personal Trainer from 'Gym and Tonic' has been an excellent addition and raised awareness for the students to their own personal level of fitness. We work closely with a wide range of voluntary groups in the community to ensure students are well supported including the Red Cross service each Tuesday helping with the Meals on Wheels programme. We liaise with and have established good links with the local Te Unga Waka Marae and with wider cultural groups.

Mellissa Durbin (Art Teacher Activity Centre) and Glynis's 'Art Expo Evening Metamorph' was held on 26 November 2010 and was very inspiring for the families and friends who attended. The enormous variety and quality of the students years work on display should not to be missed.

Staff

As at October 2011 Thirty one residents receive the benefits from 773 staffing hours each week. Caregivers at Ranfurly provide 338 hours, Cornwall Park 265 hours plus 7 'Sleepovers', and 55 hours for caregivers in the flat. The administration office provides 115 hours

Dr. Cardwell who worked in the Office as assistant administrator has retired after over seventeen years of very valued service to the Society (1/10/1993 to 03 2011). His wisdom, knowledge and loyalty to the Society has been greatly appreciated over the years by the Executive and management. His happy disposition and his quirky sense of humour is missed by all!

Emily Conway the CPA Coordinator decided to resign following her maternity leave after two years service. Emily will be missed. The CPA service continues to run smoothly under the supervision of Val and Beverley who share the coordinators role.

We have sixteen staff who have worked at Ranfurly for more than ten years, and four of those staff members for more than eighteen years and myself twenty. It has been a privilege to be here through these formative years and I have endeavoured to ensure we gain respect in the disability sector and more importantly we have exceeded in the service we provide for our residents and students. Remembering always the previous owners (I.H.C.) comments - they won't last a year!

We have reverted to one AWAKE staff member at Ranfurly Road supported by Armourguard. Armourguard make two 'Welfare Checks' by telephone and a Security Patrol Guard will make two unscheduled visits to the premises. In an emergency we have Activity Centre staff member Tom Meibusch living on site who can come immediately if there is an incident/accident and others on standby if called. If a resident is ill we will employ an extra staff member through the Ranstad Employment Agency.

Personal Advocacy Visitors

Since the appointment of Sarah Lassally who has been appointed as the Auckland East District advisor for the Personal Advocacy Trust the residents who had joined the Personal Advocacy Trust are finally receiving the Trust service that they thought they were going to receive. Unfortunately for the Trust Sarah has moved overseas with new staff recruited to continue where she left off.

Staff Training 2010/2011

- First Aid Course, Action Survival.
- Down Syndrome and Alzheimer's disease

All the following courses were taken by Chitra Subramanian (CJ Consultants).

- Consumer Rights – with Chitra Subramanian (CJ Consultants)
- Code of Rights/Privacy/ Confidentiality/Human Rights/Cultural/Informed Consent
- Abuse & Neglect Prevention. This course included Communication/Complaints/Advocacy/Open Disclosure – one and a half session
- Abuse & Neglect Part II & Challenging Behaviour & De-Escalation Strategies Part I. This session was a continuation of the previous session and the Restraint Minimisation and Safe Practice Standard
- 1 Hour training at Auckland City on the new HOP Card and bus system.
- Challenging Behaviour and De-Escalation Strategies Part II.
- The Restraint Minimisation and Safe Practice Standard
- Lifestyle Planning (Assessment/Planning/Activities/Evaluation). Covering parts of Outcome 3 – Continuum of Service Delivery of the standards, in particular the processes involved in lifestyle planning.
- Infection Prevention & Control Workshop – 5 hours with Karen Davis & Francie Morgan (Health Educators) & Christine Sieczkowski (ADHB). Training including - Influenza and other emerging infectious disease update 2011; Isolation precautions and correct use of PPE; Environment contamination; NZ Influenza Pandemic Plan following April 2010 guideline; hand hygiene; Introductory to NZ MOH Infection Prevention and Control E-learning program.

Repairs and Maintenance and Safety

The Cornwall Park Recreation Room is completed and is a great success with the resident's and staff alike. It is in full use every afternoon and evening, with residents either socialising over a cup of tea/coffee or singing along to the karaoke machine or just doing jigsaw puzzles etc. A new 50" TV with Sky Sport has been well used for the Rugby World Cup.

We are now connected to the fire brigade through the agency ADT. We continue to hold regular 'Fire Evacuations Practice' for all services, monitored by Asset Care. Our contractor Asset Care has completed the Annual Fire Alarm System Annual Survey for Safety Compliance in accordance with the NZS 4512 Fire Alarm System in Buildings. The annual Fire Equipment Test for hoses and extinguishers etc. has been completed. Asset Care have completed their monthly safety checks and quarterly testing of sprinkler, manual alarm and emergency lights. Mr Gary Walker an ex fireman completes the owner's monthly building compliance checks for Ranfurly.

The annual budget provides for a maintenance schedule. As our major capital asset is our buildings, we ensure that necessary maintenance work has high priority. An extensive record of Repairs and Maintenance is maintained at all times.

Below are the 21 Members who signed the "Application for Incorporation".

"THE RANFURLY CARE SOCIETY FOR PERSONS WHO ARE INTELLECTUALLY CHALLENGED INCORPORATED" was incorporated under the Incorporated Societies Act 1908 on the 13th day of September 1991, and changed its name to **"RANFURLY CARE SOCIETY INCORPORATED"** on the 6th day of January 1997.

*Catherine Jancis Mitchell (Jan)
Linda Rosemary Nelson
Charles White Watters (Chas)
Colleen Ellison Watters
Eileen L Littlewood
Henry Claude Littlewood (Harry)
Patricia Cooke (Pat)
Phillip John Green (John)
Phyllis Green
Robert Alfred Johnston (Bob)
Florence Anne Fraser
Arthur Desmond Carter (Des)
Hilary Fay Reid
John Graeme Sinclair Reid (Graeme)
Mrs U Browne
Mrs Ada Johnston
Catherine Aileen Carter (Judy)
Douglas Victor George Palmer
Dorothy Joan Palmer
Nonie Catherine Kiely
Elaine Alice Martin (Teddy)*

*Ranfurly Care
cordially invites*

*to share our 'Twentieth Anniversary' Celebration
on Friday 1 June 2012
at 7.00pm ~ Ranfurly Hall
enjoy live entertainment, dancing and a light supper
seating is limited ~ guests by invitation only
light drinks will be provided ~ BYO wine*

RSVP by 18 May 2012 to Ranfurly Office (09) 630 3010

This book was planned to be given out on the night of the Anniversary party on first June 2012 to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Ranfurly Story.

As I prefer to be a behind the scenes person I wrote this poem pre-empting that I may be asked to give a speech. It relates our journey and is my darling Lou's legacy.

The Ranfurly ship was built in 1991 by a dedicated crew
They all knew just what they had to do
Built solid and strong to navigate all storms
With firm foundations to perform
It was bought with love for service to be done
For those special souls, our loved ones
We sought to support them on their transition
of how to participate in the new community acquisition
We needed a captain to steer the ship
Someone who could manoeuvre her through all weathers on this the long trip
There was an initiator who confronted and challenged the injustice of the IHC sale
Who with her daughter sent from above could not be curtailed
And so a mere 130 days later the ship was launched
Throughout that long, long battle we had all remained staunch
With the help of the Lord above we have now travelled far and wide
At times the seas were meters high which we took in our stride
At other times as calm as a mill pond
Ideal for a working blonde
The service is achieved by the most amazing crew
Who without, we could not have provided the service we do
Thank you all, for your help, deed, support to make Ranfurly what it is today

God bless you all Linda and Little Linda (known as Lou)



Lou was treating everyone to an ice cream from Mr. Whippy on her birthday

ADDENDUM

To complete our story, we have included the retyped versions of February 1993 and September 1994 Newsletters for your interest.

NEWS LETTER February 1993

In December we received a grant of \$15,000 + GST from the Lottery Board to assist with wages for the Activity Centre. Our anonymous friend generously donated a further \$15,000 which was immediately used to reduce our mortgage. This is a wonderful example of an unconditional gift.

Over recent weeks we have had various trades' people calling to assess and quote for the various alterations. Very soon the work should be underway. It is exciting to think that soon so many problems will be rectified not the least being a dry roof for the winter and a functional hall.

Prior to the visit of the S.A.M.S. Evaluation and Monitoring team we undertook a Key Point Evaluation carried out by Hilary Reid and Jill Shears. A copy of this is available from the office if you have not seen it and wish to do so. The report from S.A.M.S. team is not yet available but the initial report at the end of their visit was encouraging.



In the near future the dead oak tree is to be removed and the diseased one treated to try and save it. If anyone knows of a wood turner who might be interested in the oak wood they are welcome to contact me.

This photo was taken at the time of the hall refurbishment when the then Minister of Social Welfare Jenny Shipley, was visiting Ranfurly to meet with the Manager Linda Nelson, and the President Jan Mitchell

Christmas card sales were pleasing. We have covered the cost of our cards; have a stock for next year and \$3,000 in the bank. Our thanks to Nonie and all her helpers for their hard work which made this possible.

Epsom Girls Grammar School has started their course on Community Integration with the Handicapped. A similar course last year was very successful and a plus to our society.

This being a new year and looking back on the old there is a group of ladies we know as the Ladies Auxiliary who have worked tirelessly raising funds for those special things through life. Throughout this last year when we were feeling our way financially their presence and contributions have brought much pleasure. The visible culmination of their efforts was the Activity Centre Christmas Party. Our sturdy Father Christmas needed a helper with his sack laden with individually chosen gifts for each person. The lovely afternoon tea was also part of their contribution. We can't say a big enough 'thank you' to these wonderful people.

With the New Year we have some staff changes both in the Activity Centre and in the residence. Maureen Musgrove was married last Saturday here in the grounds and is going to live in the Thames area. Lorna Bailey is embarking on a new career in arts and crafts. They will both be missed.

Joining our Activity staff is Jenny Brinsden who has among her skills a wonderful gift with puppets. Joy Jane who was here as a volunteer last year is now part of our full time staff. Jane Doogan is now full time in the Activity Centre and Jan Pieters is now in the residence. Leon Sparrow continues to be our coordinator but this year is attending a diploma course at the College of Education. Gordon Ham continues to be part of the team making a staff ratio of one to five. In the residence we have two young ladies who have joined us for weekend activities. They are Vanessa and Maree. Kuum has joined us as a part time caregiver at weekends.

The 'Shophe' was closed through the month of January but is once again open from 11.00 to 3.00 pm. We need publicity so please spread the news to your friends that it is a great place to get small gifts. We are looking for someone who would like the job of coordinating the staff roster for the

'Shoppe' and expressing their artistic skills in the presentation of goods. We could apply for someone from the Volunteer Centre but I would prefer to see it kept in the family by one of the friends of Ranfurly.

Other newsy tit-bits include:

- Lex was lucky to have his brother and cousin visit him from Canada over the Christmas period.
- On 10 December the staff all had a very pleasant luncheon at 360 Degrees as a Christmas Celebration. Judy and Des Carter and Margaret Van Veen proved to be very good care givers while the staff were away.
- Susie Cooke is shortly going to join us for four nights each week.
- On 15 December Jean and Don Merrington of Jaycees fame had a baby son and from progress report they are all doing well.
- Last but definitely not least we had our first birthday on 1 February. As you know we could not let it pass unnoticed. The afternoon tea was a happy informal gathering which everyone enjoyed.

There are two new exciting programmes in the Activity Centre this year. Firstly we have a weekly music therapy session. Part of this is a group activity and part is on an individual basis. At the beginning of February we had a whole week of a Drama Course which was thoroughly enjoyed by both staff and our people. We have found it possible to extend this to a three hour session each Monday, for the rest of the year. This is taken by Steve and Maxine. Steve began work with people with a disability 9 years ago and worked as a Charge Training Officer at Mangere and St. John's Home. He is married with two boys and recently returned to New Zealand after completing his post graduate diploma in drama therapy in London. He works in music, drama and creative arts and has a studio in Northcote where he works as a clinical and consultant therapist. Maxine is a qualified therapist trained in speech and drama in London. She has worked professionally both here and overseas, she now uses the creativity and excitement found in shows in a therapeutic manner often at her Northcote studio. She lives with her family and dogs in a large pink house in Herne Bay.

The Trustees have purchased a 1989 Ford Telstar station Wagon as a second vehicle for use for the smaller running around jobs when the van is too large or a second vehicle is needed for the smaller groups. Our thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Klisser and another anonymous well wisher for helping to make this possible.

Short stay has been busy over the Christmas period with Pam Barton, Margaret Richmond, Diane Earley, Mervyn Hoy Fong and Jean Gosling staying with us for varying lengths of time.

Recent Activities

- 8 December: A group of the Activity Centre including some of the residents went for a day trip to Rangitoto Island. This was quite a contrast to suburbia, more like the moon with its eerie beauty.
- 11 December: Special Olympics had their Christmas Party and Fancy Dress Ball in the Activity Centre. Maureen went as a floral lady in Pink; Bobbie went as a Hula Girl Selwyn went as Dame Edna Everidge, Peter as a Roman Gentleman and Mark as a clown. Everyone participated whole heartedly.
- 13 December: The 'Flea Market' at Panmure is becoming a favourite place to visit. Everyone loves browsing around the stalls. In the afternoon Claire Reynolds came and played the piano for a very happy 'sing-a-long' followed by a beautiful afternoon tea. Thank you Claire.
- 15 December: After dinner Mary took four of the girls for a drive to One Tree Hill
- 16 December: This was the last Country and Western meeting for the year and it took the form of a BBQ in the garden. All our people contributed to the Hamper which was raffled. It was a very happy evening as BBQ's and Country Western music are very popular
- 18 December: This was the day of the Christmas Party in the Activity Centre. There had been great deal of preparation by many to make this a very special event. The afternoon started with Carol singing and then the play which had been rehearsed long and hard and in which most people took part. Both the actors and the large audience of family and friends thoroughly enjoyed the production. With very sincere thanks to our wonderful ladies of Auxiliary, Father Christmas arrived with his assistant and a very full bag of gifts for all our

people. To complete a very happy afternoon there was a delicious afternoon tea, again provided by the Lady Auxiliary.

- 20 December: In the evening the residents, staff and their families gathered in the Activity Centre for a family Christmas dinner. It was a delicious dinner cooked by some of the staff members. I now understand why we need to have a 'regular weight watch' for our people. At the end of the evening we drew the raffle for the Christmas cake and it was won by Mrs. May Walker. The money raised from it has since purchased two compost bins which will ultimately enhance our horticultural efforts. Currently we are enjoying a good crop of potatoes from our new raised vegetable bed.
- From 18 December we started to lose people as they went to their homes for the Christmas holidays.
- 21 December: In the evening a group went to the Christmas tree Concert at Beaumont Street, the music and lights were spectacular. The singing continued all the way home.
- 22 December: Mrs. Davidson has been sent home from the hospital for Christmas and Pam has left us to be with her mother. The Activity Centre closed for the yearHooray!!!
- 24 December: Diane Earley came to stay with us for two weeks. Excitement was mounting – Christmas was almost here.
- 25 December: Once everyone had gone out with their families, Tasha, Ian and Dianne were here for Christmas dinner. Margarte was the chief cook with several helpers together with Pam Barton, Florence, her cousin from Wellington, Jan Pieters, Mrs. Earley and a friend. We all sat down to a delicious dinner. This was followed by a very happy session around the Christmas tree. Mrs. Davidson was meant to join us for the day but she was not well enough so when Pam was taken home she took food and gifts from the tree. A drive around Mission Bay rounded the day off.
- 26 December: A quiet day to recover except for a visit to Victoria Street Market
- 27 December: This was a day for a picnic so everyone went off to Milford Beach. Everyone sang themselves hoarse both going and coming home. There was a small detour to Grey Lynn for a huge ice cream
- 29 December: An evening to enjoy the cool of Cornwall Park was lovely and the trees were beautiful especial the Pohutakawas
- 30 December: In the afternoon almost everyone went to Long Bay for the afternoon. Ian was frustrated by a pressure area and had to miss this trip
- 31 December: Volunteers took Maureen and Tasha for an outing to Newmarket in the morning and after lunch nearly everyone went to visit Eden Gardens.
- 1 January: Welcome 1993. While the Boss was away Jan and Florence did their best to keep Ranfurly on course. In the afternoon there was a trip to town and a ferry trip to Devonport.
- 2 January: Off to the Lido to the movies to see 'Fern Gully' and 'The Last Rain Forest'
- 3 January: The day was filled with a trip to Milford Beach which is quite a favourite and then a look around North Shore and an Art Exhibition.
- 4 January: Excitement was mounting as the bags were being packed ready for the trip with Margaret Whitta.
- 5 January: After a great job being done by Margarete to get all the bags packed and secured before they were reorganised by willing helpers the van was loaded and the fortunate four, Tasha, Maureen, Mark and Selwyn, accompanied by some well wishers set out for the railway station and their holiday in Rotorua. However, before that happened the ladies had to have a trip to the hairdresser. We were very proud of them as they left as they all looked very smart.

Birthdays

Jocelyn Worley celebrated her birthday with a delicious morning tea in the Activity Centre on 10 December. Margaret Richmond had her birthday on 19 December. Her family joined her for a special evening meal. On 19 January Cresse Knight celebrated her birthday with her friends over a special morning tea. On 26 January Mrs. Rimmer came through from Tauranga to join with Lex in celebrating his birthday. He had his favourite meal- fish and chips together with a lovely salad. This was followed by a birthday cake with the full number of candles which he blew out in one go.

Get Well Soon

In this letter we have two special get well messages. Jocelyn Worley who has had a cataract operation and Cresse Knight who has also had eye surgery. We all wish you both a speedy recovery and we are longing to see you both back at the Activity Centre.

From the Manager

Here we are – late again! However there is tons of news to share with you. My excuse is that the office had had an exceptionally busy time with finance and analysis associated with ACC, PAYE, AGM and the end of the year Financial Accounts. We now have a total of 23 staff, including myself.

We held a staff seminar recently which covered some interesting topics such as Understanding Epilepsy, Lifting Techniques, Nutrition and Safe Food (Hygiene) and Aspects of the Privacy Act. There is another seminar planned in the near future covering Individual Personal Programmes, which comprises of a large part of our reporting to maintain our current level of funding.

An Anger Management course was held over a period of six weeks, facilitated by Yvonne Prose-Dixon of Community Service Team North. This course was attended by three of our people, who gained valuable practical experience on how to deal with a student presenting with an anger management problem/situation.

Some of you may remember Alwyn Robinson who was the manager for IHC at Ranfurly Road. He is now employed by the Northern Regional Health Authority as a Project Manager for Disabilities Services. North Health purchases our services which are financed through the support subsidy. This was transferred in July from the Community Funding Agency to the R.H.A. As a result we negotiated a new contract, 46 pages long! Their requirement is based on more accountability from agencies which will involve more comprehensive reporting. Therefore, we now have to deal with three Government agencies for financial support:

- NZ Income Support Service (Invalid, Disability & Accommodation Allowances)
- North Health (I. H. Support Subsidy)
- Community Funding Agency (V.O.S. P. Funding for Activity Centre)

Standard and Monitoring Services (S.A.M.S.) visited Ranfurly on June 27/ 28 to review our facility and its operation. Their report which is a requirement of C.F.A. was very favourable. Recently while updating the Staff Instruction Manual it was noted that seven of our residents are members of the Advocacy Trust. If anyone is interested in gaining further information they can contact:

The Director, Personal Advocacy Trust, PO Box 6575, Wellington Telephone (04) 385 9175

We have been able to assist 14 families with short stay accommodation. This is very beneficial to our permanent residents who are able to form new friendships and enjoy the stimulation of new social interaction.

The dining room refurbishing is now complete with the fitting of Slimline Blinds and new drapes. Through donations we have been able to install a water cooler in the residential home. We are now waiting for the South wing hall to be re-gib-boarded and we are in the process of planning the exterior painting, which will complement all the repair work and refurbishing which has been achieved already.

Friends of Ranfurly are still very active and continue to meet each Wednesday morning under the leadership of Ursula Lampitt. To keep their street stalls stocked a lot of extra work is done at home. Friends of Ranfurly would love some new friends to be part of their social weekly group. However if anyone could do basic sewing at home, this would be a great help.

Recently a stall was held for fund raising purpose and together with the other fund raising ideas; donations of an electric fry pan and a second hand trailer were made to Ranfurly. Also \$620 was donated towards the purchase of a video camera. All these efforts are much appreciated by Ranfurly Care.

An auction will be held at the Ranfurly Hall on September 21 starting at 10.30 am. Please check your cupboards. Any contribution would be gratefully appreciated

Iris Williams, one of our staff members accompanied Natasha to Australia. They were away from 20-28 July. They met with Natasha's mother and a former teacher in Brisbane. Natasha wrote an interesting account of her holiday.

Natasha graduated from her A.I.T. course on June 22 – three of her friends went to her graduation ceremony.

From the President

I have now served two years as President of Ranfurly Care, and in line with our Constitution I will retire later this month. Our Vice-President Dr. Florence Fraser has accepted nomination for the position, and I have accepted nomination for the position of Secretary. Florence and I have worked closely together in the last couple of years and I look forward to supporting her in the future.

Our A.G.M. takes place on 25 September and there will be several changes on the Committee and Trust which Members will have already had notification of. One of the Committees aims this year has been to involve all the families using the services in the 'active life' of the Society, and this has been great. The Trustees are very happy that the second part of the mortgage has now been repaid! Now we can turn our attention to reducing the other mortgage.

The Standards and Monitoring Agency (S.A.M.S.) did an evaluation of our residential services recently and we received a very good report. Anyone who is interested in seeing it can do so at the office.

Staff changes have been very small this year and our team of both Residential and Activity Centre staff are very supportive of each other as well as the residents and those who attend the Day Programme. The service Ranfurly Care provides is entirely dependent on the quality of the staff, and we are very fortunate with the people we have been able to employ. Right from the manager, Linda Nelson, down to the newest part-time employee they seem to have a special enthusiasm and dedication.

The Committee and Trustees aim to renovate the Activity Centre building now that Ranfurly House has been refurbished to such a high standard with the assistance of the ASB Trust. We have sought assistance with his project and may have something to report by the time the next newsletter comes out. The toilet areas particularly are in need of upgrading in this older building.

Thank you all for your support.

Jan Mitchell

One of our more popular activities is the weekly Ten Pin bowling at the Waitakere Bowling Centre, Henderson. Also popular is the indoor bowls on a Monday night at the May Road Memorial Hall. We have participated in three tournaments for Ten Pin Bowling:

- 7 May Fours Tournament at Waitakere Bowling Centre Congratulations to Geoff Watson and Chris Martin who came fifth in Division 1. Also congratulations to Gerard for coming fourth in Division 3, Janet Watters and Mark Purdie for coming fifth in Division 5 and Dean Franklin and Selwyn Meredith who were sixth in Division 6
- 2 July Pairs Tournament Ribbon Day at Manukau City – run by Counties and Manukau. Congratulations to Chris Martin who came third in Division 2. Goff Watson who came sixth in Division 2, Gerard who came seventh in Division 3, Anne fourth in Division 4, Janet sixth in Division 6, Dean sixth in Division 7 and Mark Purdie third in Division 8 Margaret Mathiesons' some David scored 200 in a single game the highest score of the day.
- 16 July Trans-Harbour Shield – this is an annual tournament and Ranfurly Care participate as part of a team which has competed in this competition since 1992. They have not succeeded in winning the shield so far, but this year we collected some spot prizes donated by Countrywide Bank and Otis Elevators – Jan won a cap and Geoff a bag and Gerard a T-Shirt.

Special Olympics

Some of you may be interested to learn that Special Olympics have just celebrated their 10th Anniversary. They organise a year-round programme of sports training and competition for people who have intellectually disability. They have 14 regional branches 7 of which are in Auckland. The organisation is coordinated by staff and family and volunteers. International events are held every four years, the next being held at Yale, Newhaven, Connecticut, where they are anticipating 7000 athletes from 139 countries. Each team is expected to take a cross-section of athletes, not just the 'elite'. The criteria are two years involvement in activity training and competition and the ability of the athlete to be able to undertake long-distance air-travel.

Ranfurly Care has a special relationship with the Special Olympics – we are extremely grateful to Helena and Margaret Mathieson and Wendy Lee for the opportunity to participate in various activities as well as the personal friendship they extend to us. We are agreeable to help them by

letting them have a storage area at Ranfurly for their equipment and they use our facilities as a meeting point.

Activity Centre News

The following is a report from Michael Pierard regarding the Wednesday Music Sessions. The Management have recently applied to the Auckland City Council Discretionary Trust for a further six months funding for music therapy. This therapy is an activity which Ranfurly Care wishes to maintain as a permanent teaching tool.

Music Therapy Group Sessions – Prepared by Michal Pierard

Two half hour group sessions are held weekly in the lounge/dining room of the Home. The venue was preferred to the Hall because of its warmth, more intimate atmosphere and general comfort. The space is adequate and a piano is on hand. At present there is no piano available in the Hall.

The clients are divided into two groups with approximately 13 in the first and 8 in the second. The numbers vary slightly from week to week. Because the clients in the second session have multiple disabilities they require more attention on a one to one level from July 1994 the time devoted to this group has been increased to a total of one hour in two sessions.

From my prospective I have seen some amazing progress and there is no doubt that the clients' respond positively to the Music Therapy programme. When people are allowed to respond naturally to music stimuli without any preconceived expectations, they often surprise us with their awareness of musical emotion and connection with their feelings and expressiveness. Family members have noticed this and have responded in some cases by supporting individual lessons with others also expressing interest.

The help and support of the staff involved is invaluable and I rely on their comments and feed back when devising the programmes. Each session begins with a familiar greeting song which encourages group and individual participation. By means of various musical activities, emphasis is placed on the development of self-esteem and increased confidence within a group setting, socialisation skills, increased opportunities for emotional and creative outlet and extended areas of choice.

2 July

Garage Sale

The Activity Centre with help from parents and friends recently held a successful Garage Sale. The staff instigated the idea of a garage sale to raise funds for the purchase of a video camera. The video camera has been proven to be a valuable medium in working with our people – it has been especially rewarding to see the enjoyment of the people who have limited communication skills. The personal gain of self esteem and pleasure from seeing themselves on screen makes the staff feel that their time and energy has all been worthwhile.

With typical garage sale hype we were ready – our strategy was on quality not quantity and this paid off at the end of the day.

We had a large number of people waiting to be let in before the doors were opened at 8.30 am. The aroma of the sausage sizzle added to the atmosphere and by 11.30am we had nearly sold everything. The Salvation Army took whatever surplus remained. A grand total of \$1, 250 was raised on the day. Staff should like extend their gratitude to all who helped make our first garage sale of '94 resounding success.

Achiever of the Year Award – Ranfurly has established an Achiever of the Year Award. This award is to recognise a person who has shown great effort, increased self-esteem, personal growth, maturity and peer support. Our first recipient is Diane Early, who has left Ranfurly Care Activity Centre for a full time position with Pinnacle Enterprises Packing Systems in Grey Lynn. We are very proud of Diane's progress since she first came to Ranfurly Care on a short stay from Ward 10, Auckland Hospital. She is living in a Spectrum Trust Home in Mount Roskill with four other people and has been attending the Activity Centre since January 1993. She rang the Activity Centre just the other day to let everyone know that she has formed new friendships and is really enjoying her work.

We held a special morning tea to honour Diane's achievement and presented her with the award. This award will be a yearly presentation.

Whilst discussing achievement in 1994 we must mention that Jean Gosling celebrated her 21st birthday with a party and her friends at Ranfurly. She received a bouquet and lots of gifts!

Our New Video Camera

The purchase of our new video camera has been a blessing! Many thanks again to everyone who helped in the garage sale – video tapes of recent event, birthdays and special occasions are available for viewing. In addition to the video tapes, photo albums have been of great interest. Everyone has an up to date photo album/scrap book which we all maintain. Included in these are day trips and special occasions for example a day spent at Kawa Kawa Bay and Maraetai Beach.

Indoor Bowls

Carl has been taking a small group of residents to indoor bowls on a Monday night so that they can enjoy the chance to socialise with others, and it is interesting to observe the competitive spirit in which the games are played. He has recently been involved in three trips to the movies including The Lion King – Laan had never been to the movies and her reaction was a delight. We are always planning interesting and stimulating outings such as these which teach social interaction for community integration.

We have continued over the winter with the 'length' swimming group. The venue has changed from Mt Eden to the Cameron Pool with a regular session on Thursday mornings. Gerard, Chris and Dean are all self motivated in their swimming, which is wonderful to see. Through generous donations, the Activity Centre has been able to purchase the very latest piece of equipment for the gym called a Cateye Ergociser. It is a type of exercycle which is proving appropriate for most of the people and giving them an opportunity to increase their aerobic fitness.

The walking group has changed clubs and now walks with the Three Kings Y's group. We have been made to feel very welcome and are receiving terrific support from these people. We get out on these walks every Tuesday and Thursday morning and continue with many of our own walks during the rest of the week. Walking continues to be very popular pass-time Ranfurly.

The cooking group has been very active over the winter months. There is nothing like the aroma of baking to enhance the homely atmosphere. If anyone has any 'tested and tried' bread recipes they would be very much appreciated. We try hard but have some way to go on mastering the art of bread making. I confess Georges' hens have been the recipient of a few loaves. He reports their eggs were quite a sight and all sorts of funny shapes. However we enjoy the cooking sessions and have made some wonderful goodies.

The knitting group was very busy covering coat hangers for the Garage Sale. Selwyn continues with knitting knee rugs for the elderly people – others are knitting sock like tops to be crocheted to the soles for slippers. We use the wool almost as fast as it is given or purchased and the group would greatly appreciate any donations of wool. We are sewing new items for the shop, including pictures of animals made with needle punch work, soft toy kitchen towel holders, lacy bathroom soap and towel holders.

We made apple jelly and guava jelly for the Garage Sale, which sold quickly. We have since made marmalade and this is available from the 'Shoppe'. At the end of November we will have Christmas mince available – really yummy – sold within days last year so 'don't hesitate to place an order!

Another craft we have been teaching is poker-work. We have purchased two machines and find they are ideal for decorating wooden jewel boxes and creating a variety of original patterns on all types of woodwork items.

GENERAL

Indoor Bowling

Through the kind efforts of Pat Cooke we now have two indoor bowling mats on permanent loan from the St. George's Church in Epsom. This has assisted the Centre greatly, as the price of bowling mats is prohibitive and we would not have been able to enjoy this game in our hall on a regular basis without this community kindness and consideration.

Stereo Equipment

The Activity Centre has revamped our audio stereo system. Currently we have a small 'ghetto blaster' with microphone, which we use daily. People have a character-change when the microphone is placed in front of them. It is an excellent tool for our daily current events and communication.

Our latest purchase is a second hand mini CD system comprising a cassette tape, CD player, Karaoke, and radio – we are very pleased with the sound quality of this system which was only one

year old and cost \$600 instead of the new retail price of \$1700. An extra bonus is that we still have two years warranty remaining.

Kitchen Equipment

Thanks to the generosity of the Newmarket Rotary Club we are now the proud owners of the latest Fisher & Paykel dual frost free refrigerator and wall oven. Originally, the kitchen was donated to I.H.C. by Newmarket Rotary in 1966. We are very encouraged to receive further support from the Newmarket Rotary and look forward to them visiting our premises.

Jenny has been able to introduce through her association with the Salvation Army two new group activities which are extremely popular with the participants. One activity is a fortnightly visit to the Salvation Army Newton Branch Crèche, where we help to look after the children who attend the Crèche. The other activity involves a social weekly meeting with the Salvation Army Ladies Fellowship Group. Ranfurly is very grateful to Jenny for making this possible and we look forward to the holiday trip she is organising to Rotoroa Island.

A new group activity which is proving to be very popular is meditation and relaxation combined with some head, hand and feet massage.



Bye from some on the Papamoa holiday

