



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 friends' 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

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 Company.

Following the presentations we were invited to a luncheon at the 'Landing Seafood Restaurant' by the Onehunga wharf. Bruce is finally retiring at the end of the year and will 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’

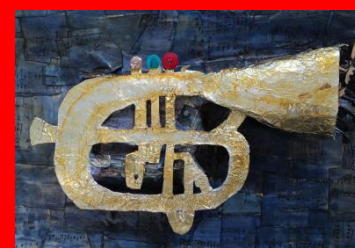
October

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 art works.....

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. This is 26 of the 42 staff enjoying the Staff Christmas Party at Mc Hughs restaurant at Cheltenham. Glynis is taking leave of absence for a year so we will miss her



Tania is back and Bob is visiting!



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 the '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 years 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' | April |
| ANZAC Service | April |
| Fire Safety Day | April |
| Auckland Arts Festival | April |
| Fair Trade Day | May |
| Fear Factor Day | June |
| Circus Seminar Workshop | July |
| SPCA Cupcake Day | September |
| Pool Championships | October |

Other events that proved successful in the Activity Centres calendar was of course the Mid Winter in July, the Circus Seminar Workshop in July and the Auckland Art Festival in March

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 Colllyns it was his fiftieth, Micheal 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 upon – we must 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 (All students invited) |
| Christmas Celebrations | 21 December at 1.00 pm |
| 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.



Christmas Card Poem

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 YOURS



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!

