Season's Greetings to all our Ranfurly friends and Supporters We wish you all a very 'Happy New Year'

This newsletter is a pictorial journey of the Resident and Students acitivities celebrated during the 2013 year.

'A picture tells a thousand words' therefore the pages need no explanation as they all tell their own story in the homes and the Activity Centre

Hi to all our family and friends

The word family always comes to mind when one thinks of Ranfurly; the support, loyalty and love of a group of persons united by a common cause, to enhance the welfare of our residents and students lives.

Another successful year has passed at Ranfurly Care, a year marked by the usual varied mix of outings, events and activities which ensures a full and rich life for our residents and the students of the Activity Centre. It has been a year of planning, refurbishment and completing another M.O.H. (Ministry of Health) full audit which resulted in an excellent report. 2013 was very exciting being involved in the developing manifestation of a vision becoming a reality – replacing the upstairs myriad of dysfunctional rooms of the upper floor area at the Activity Centre which currently is an empty shell.

While clearing the builders came across a 1929 newspaper which the staff want to be framed as a reminder and memory of the past! During the 2014 holidays the builders, plumber and electrician will continue to work on the project including removing the chimney down to the first floor level. As well as the project we are planning to replace the Activity Centre front roof in early 2014. It was planned to be completed in 2013 but unfortunately you cannot hurry the time the resource consent process takes. The large Cornwall Park awning off the living area and the Activity Centre canopy are completed and functioning well in all weather conditions.

This year's AGM held on the 20 October 2013 was well attended by twenty eight Society members. 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 who we welcome with open arms. To remain vibrant, active and relevant Ranfurly needs the input of all family and society members. This is why the staff at Ranfurly wants to thank all of you who are prepared to help out at various events as this input is very much appreciated and needed.

The Ministry of Health engaged KPMG to develop a nationally consistent pricing model structure for providers which we completed and have since received their cost analysis report for residential and respite care which makes interesting reading. To complete part of the KPMG report I contacted Daroch Valuers to obtain the square meters of our buildings. For your interest Ranfuly House is 12,755 sq. ft and CPA 5,844.8 sq ft.

We were very relieved that a letter was received from the Auckland City Council re the earthquake assessment to say that the Activity Centre has a 42% rating and the residential home is rated 48% therefore no earthquake upgrade is required. However the Executive have decided to employ an engineer to advise how we can upgrade both buildings to a much higher safer percentage of rating.

Christmas has been celebrated in a variety of ways this year. The combined family dinner and staff luncheon was successful with a hundred attending. Unfortunately the bad weather stymied the plan for the party to be held in our home and gardens. The Ranfurly Kapa Haka group were invited to a Christmas lunch at the Te Unga Waka Marae. The nativity and BBQ for families was amazing – the number of people who attended was incredible. We were visited by Mary and Joseph with baby Jesus, the Ranfurly choir and a room full of beautiful winged angels, wise men, a donkey, miniature horses, a lamb, two chickens, and two dogs. Residents enjoyed a service by the Rev Jo Kelly–Moore and a concert 'Celebrate Christmas' at the Trinity Cathedral.

Congratulations to Peter and Christy who returned from the Dunedin 'Special Olympic National Games' armed with lots of medals and beaming faces.

'The World Collides' art exhibition was amazing. Congratulations to all staff, especially Mellissa and all the artists and participants which made this event such an undeniable success. Arts Access Aotearoa wrote a complimentary article which can be seen on our web site.

"On Friday 11 November let your world collide with our amazing artists through the mediums of paint, printmaking, sculpture, drawing, photography, mosaics, photography and much more. Worlds Collide is an opportunity for artists with disabilities to share their world with others through a celebration of art. You will be able to meet many of the artists at the opening night between 6 and 8pm and on Saturday from 10-2pm.

Ranfurly artists will take you on a journey through many different worlds they have explored in their creative practice over the last 12 months. Let yourself be swept into the East with prints of palaces, find yourself lost in a flock of colorful flamingo sculptures; be intrigued by the creative map making; imagine a world where humans have antlers; explore a new world of planets unseen; meet wild beasts on an African Safari; and get up close and personal to volcanoes.

Journey with our artists as they encounter the works of famous artists including Matisse and Monet and respond through their creative practice producing their own water lily gardens and paper collage art works. The mosaic artists will be displaying their tiles and mosaic sculptures including masks and menorah. Our photographers will present their best works from the past 12 months covering a variety of themes including: portraiture; the natural world; stillness and movement".

Welcome to our new residents, students and their families - we look forward to a long positive relationship. We are so lucky to be surrounded by such talented people. We look forward to seeing the students on the 20 January 2014, all refreshed and ready for another exciting year of personal challenges and the reward of personal achievement.

Our condolences to all those families who have lost their loved ones in the past year.

Wishing you all a Happy New Year

From Linda

P.S *Remember to check the web site which is being updated regularly.



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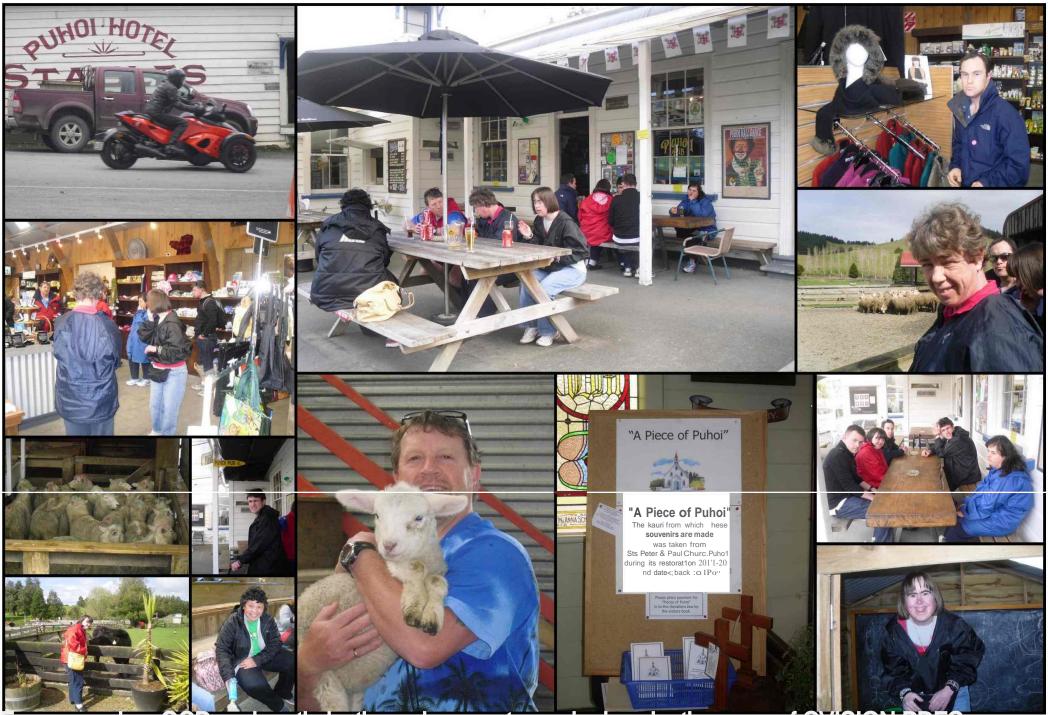




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