

# NEWSLETTER - 2007

## JUNE / JULY Edition



### A word from BriarGate

Thank you all for the return of the family surveys. After going through them all it was evident that most of you were happy with your relatives care and other aspects of the home and pleased about the improvements we have made.

However of the 32 surveys I had returned there were 4 that were not so happy so I will address these issues.

1. **Laundry** – This is an ongoing problem. Sera, (our laundry person) puts all the unmarked clothing in a bin downstairs in the laundry and I would like the relatives to please go through the bin. The name tags unfortunately do sometimes come off in the wash. A suggestion from one relative was that once a month the relatives go through the draws of their family member and give the staff the clothes that do not belong in that room. This would be most helpful. It may not solve the clothing problem, but it will help. Residents do tend to take clothing off and leave it places and then the Magpies come and clean them up.
2. **Personal Cares.** - In the clinic there is a daily cares chart. On this chart are if residents have had these cares carried out. At the foot of this page shows the headings of how the chart is set out.

The Caregivers have to sign when these things are done. If you have Power of Attorney or are a close relative, eg. spouse you may request to see the form. For privacy reasons we cannot display this form in their rooms. It gives a clear indication that personal cares are being done and Pam our RN checks them.

Never let your concerns build up keep at us until you have a resolution or you are happier with the situation. Everyone like's positive feed back but we need to hear the negative so we can try and improve. What is okay by one person may not be by another. Thank you all

### BRIAR LODGE



For a long time we have been concerned about the lack of availability of beds for respite care.

Hence the opening of Briar Lodge. This is a country lodge purely for the purpose of Respite and Day Care. It is not a rest home and will not be run as such but more as a family home maintaining the freedom and independence of the clients so they can remain at home longer with their carers. We have five beds for overnight and longer stays and will be sending out the brochures and information to all relevant agencies and families.

We had the honour of having Bill Brown as our first client and along the way we have met June's family as well. The grand opening is to be held on the 11<sup>th</sup> of July at 2pm and of course you are all invited. The address is 482 State highway 16 Kumeu. You can ring Briargate for further details

**Welcome:** – A very warm welcome to our new clients Elma Lawrence, Dulcie O'Sullivan, June Monds and their families.

**All the very Best:** - To Pat and Bob MacDonald. We really enjoyed having Bob as a daycare client.

**Farewell:** Dear little Ross Litchfield passed away so peacefully on the 19<sup>th</sup> June 07. We have been his family for 11 years and he will be really missed.

Date	Time	Name	Shower	Hair	Teeth	Nails	Shave	Bowels	Skin	Signature
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## JUNE / JULY BIRTHDAYS



### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

04/06/07 - Iris Barber

09/06/07 - Jim Hill

19/07/07 - Ken Law

21/07/07 - Yvonne Browne

24/07/07 - Roy Leith

29/07/07 - Dianne Clark

30/07/07 - Elma Lawrence

30/07/07 - Marie McLean

### **Jacqui Miles – Activities Co-Ordinator**

We are saying farewell to Jacqui Miles who will be leaving BriarGate on Friday, 29 June 2007.

Jacqui's final words are:

"I have left writing this until the very end in the vain hopes that by putting it off it will go away and I won't have to deal with it. However as with all things it has not worked so it is with a very heavy heart that I bid you all a fond farewell.

Many, many thanks to everyone for all the assistance and wonderful conversations and for taking time to help me with whichever new programme I was trying to get up and running. Especially thank you to all the staff for being there to ensure that they worked. Thank you also to all the families for allowing me to spend this very special time with your loved ones and for your help in getting to know them better. I take with me the most wonderful memories which I will treasure always. My love to you all, Jacqui

**We will sorely miss Jacqui but there is a chance she may reappear, lets hope, in the mean time I am pleased to say that Melissa Castillo has agreed to fill Jacqui's boots.**



### **Entertainers(ment)**

It is great to see family and friends joining in when there is an entertainer / entertainment. There is a list of entertainers displayed on the wall in both lounges.



**Vic and Ena dancing to Ricky and Maureen**

### **A Word to our Relatives**

Thank you to Elaine Brown for her kind words and encouragement and Geraldine Mills for passing on positive feedback.

### **Whats happening at Briargate**

On the 20<sup>th</sup> July 07 at 1.30pm the staff will be dressing up in their national costume. It is our day for recognising the diversity of our staff and giving them the opportunity to tell us about their customs. Please come and join us.

### **Alzheimers NZ – Cuppa for a Cause 22<sup>nd</sup> July to 28<sup>th</sup> July 2007**

Please try and support the hard work the Alzheimers Association does. Attached to this newsletter is a Form which you can send any donations to.

It is with regret that we say farewell to Stuart Hight



our Chaplain who comes into BriarGate every week and spends a day with the residents, families and staff. Stuart is going off to join the Air Force as a Chaplain. We will really miss him and wish him all the very best.

His final day with us at BriarGate will be on Wednesday, 11 July 2007.