

**Changes at BriarGate since
our last newsletter:**

We are proud to introduce and welcome our new Rest Home Manager, Lidija Brence. Lidija is an experienced rest home manager, and registered nurse from Germany. She has come to us from the Mission Bay Rest Home where she was the manager. Also she has worked for the Taikura Trust as a needs assessor.

You will find Lidija has lots of energy, and is looking forward to putting her stamp on BriarGate, she looks forward to meeting you all!

We say farewell to Shirley on admin who you all know - she has been at BriarGate for nearly 5 years. We wish to express our gratitude for all of the support and hard work that she has invested in BriarGate. Best wishes for her success and happiness in the future.

Welcome:

A warm welcome to our new residents' and their families who are Richard Hudson and Eric Shucksmith.

We really do appreciate that you the family member(s) / relative(s) make huge adjustments when your loved ones are in care. Our aim is always to do our very best to maintain that level of care that they have received prior to coming into BriarGate.

Activities:

Linn and the residents found a break in the weather to head out on several van trips. The residents particularly enjoy the views up North Head, the ice creams at Devonport and the beaches in Milford.

Linn also took them out to an elderly concert at the Bayview school where they saw kapa hakas and listened to choirs.

During the day she keeps them busy by reading them the newspapers and arranging social and physical activities such as word guesses and pikelet making.

Entertainment:

Saturday 20th December- A church choir have been invited to BriarGate to sing Christmas carols. We wish to extend an invitation to all relatives and friends to come join in the festivities.

Starts approximately 10:30am. We'd love to see you there.



Christmas Party:



Monday 22nd December BriarGate will be hosting a Christmas party for the residents, their families, friends and our friends. There will be singing, performers and a finger food lunch will be served.

The first performance will start at 10:30am and lunch is at 11:45am.

Linn has organized a choir from our residents who love to sing. They will be singing Christmas carols for us at 1pm and would appreciate any support you could give them.

Please RSVP to Linn before the 16th of December if you would like to attend.

It would be great to have as many people there to help get everyone into the Christmas spirit.

September & October Birthdays:



A very Happy Birthday to all the following residents who have celebrated or will be celebrating a birthday.

13/09/08-Victor Mowbray
18/09/08- Joan Davis
22/09/08- David Cutten
02/10/08- Desmond Withell
14/10/08- Peter Schischka
26/10/08- Peter Greener
28/10/08- Michael McGill

Condolences:



We are sad to announce the passing of Linda Lucas and Victor Traves

Our sincere condolences to the families and friends of our beloved residents.

New Staff :

You'll see that, along with Lidija, we have some other new faces around Briargate. We would like to welcome Tae In (Joy), Lynn, Sulieti, Samantha, Aaron, Leanne and Tess.

Staff Performance:

We have started an Employee of the Month award for staff whose work habits are outstanding or who have improved their work standards noticeably in the past month.

Visiting families and friends are welcome to nominate a staff member (remember the award is not limited to caregivers, the kitchen and cleaning staff are also eligible) by filling out a form and placing it in the box outside by the Visitor's Book.

There will also be a Caregiver's Appreciation Award for outstanding caregivers. Please feel free to nominate any caregivers you feel have maintained a high standard of care for our residents.

Have you heard this one? :

"How was your golf game, dear?" asked Jack's wife, Tracy.

"Well, I was hitting pretty well, but my eyesight's gotten so bad, I couldn't see where the ball went."

"You're seventy-five years old, Jack!" admonished his wife. "Why don't you take my brother Scott along?"

"But he's eighty-five and doesn't even play golf anymore," protested Jack.

"Yes, but he's got perfect eyesight and can watch your ball for you," Tracy pointed out.

The next day Jack teed off with Scott looking on. Jack swung and the ball disappeared down the middle of the fairway. "Did you see where it went?" asked Jack.

"Yup," Scott answered.

"Well, where is it?" yelled Jack, peering off into the distance.

"I forgot."

Quotation for the Month:

Happiness is when what you think, what you say, and what you do are in harmony.
- Gandhi

**As always take care and stay healthy
Lidija, Pam and the staff of BriarGate**