

WAIPUNA *Connections*

Bringing you closer to the lives you help change



“They made what was a really hard journey a little bit easier, and made us feel less alone.”

Read more about how Avelien honoured her Mum, Yolanda, and the care she received at Waipuna Hospice on page three.

Embracing the Hospice Whānau

A letter from our CEO, David Bryant.

Kia ora koutou,

As I continue to settle into my role as CEO, I've been taking the time to truly immerse myself in all aspects of Waipuna Hospice. I've spent time out in the community with our nurses, visited our retail shops, and seen firsthand the dedication of our incredible team. This experience has deepened my appreciation for the work we do and, just as importantly, for the unwavering support we receive from our community.

This issue of our newsletter is filled with examples of that generosity. One particularly moving story is Avelien's, who has honoured her mum, Yolanda, by taking on our Hospice Hero Challenge. Her journey is a powerful reminder of the lasting impact of hospice care and the strength of the families we support.

I also want to take a moment to reflect on our Christmas Remembrance Tree campaign. Every year, this initiative provides a meaningful way for people to remember loved ones they can't be with at Christmas by leaving a message on our Remembrance Trees. It's always a special campaign, and I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who donated, as well as to the volunteers who made it all possible. A special thank you also goes to Farmers, whose nationwide support of this campaign helped raise over \$1 million for hospices across Aotearoa. You can read all about this campaign on page five.



Above: David with Mount Maunganui volunteer Shona, and Shop Manager, Andrea.

Beyond these major events, I've been blown away by the generosity of our community in so many ways. This issue highlights the incredible support we've received, from local businesses fundraising on our behalf to volunteers giving their time in ways big and small. Whether it's a golf tournament raising vital funds, a team stepping in to clean our windows, or a local company donating proceeds from a community event, every act of kindness makes a difference.

At the heart of everything we do is our mission to ensure that people facing end of life receive the care, comfort, and dignity they deserve. None of this would be possible without the support of our donors, volunteers, and community partners. Thank you for being part of our Waipuna Hospice whānau, your generosity and kindness truly make all the difference.

Ngā mihi nui,

David Bryant
CEO, Waipuna Hospice

What's Been Happening at Hospice



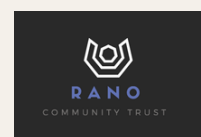
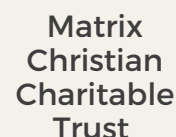
To kick the year off, our team ran our Annual Palliative Care Study Day to help educate those within our community about palliative care and all the different elements that come with end-of-life and bereavement. The day was a huge success, with people from all areas of the health sector attending. There were quizzes, spot prizes, and a quick Zumba break which made for a great laugh. Thank you to everyone who attended, we look forward to hopefully seeing everyone again next year!!

We were fortunate enough to host the spectacular Dr Kathryn Mannix here at Waipuna Hospice and hear her discuss how to talk about dying. With her history of writing books, leading palliative care teams around England and delivering TED Talks on the topic of dying and palliative care, it did not come as a surprise when her presentation was so well received. We are always looking for ways to educate and better ourselves on how we can care for each individual in our community, so we want to thank Dr Kathryn Mannix and her team for making the time to visit us here in Tauranga.



Thank You to Our Supporters

We could not continue providing the level of care that we do without funding from our local community and we want to thank those below for their support.



Walking for Mum

In March, Avelien Strickland took part in our Hospice Hero Challenge to honour her Mum, Yolanda, who passed away under the care of Waipuna Hospice in 2023.

In the middle of 2022, Yolanda experienced persistent stomach issues, initially dismissed as a gluten intolerance or an ulcer. However, as time went on, the discomfort only worsened.

“In December we were told Mum had stage four defused stomach cancer. There were limited treatment options, but she was determined to keep fighting.”

First with chemotherapy and later with immunotherapy, Yolanda tried to prolong her time. But by mid-year, her quality of life had deteriorated significantly. Through it all, her biggest concern was her family. “Even during her battles, her focus was on everyone else. She wanted to make sure we were okay,” Avelien recalls.

During this difficult time, Waipuna Hospice became an essential support system. Hospice nurses provided medical, emotional, and practical care for the entire family. **“Everyone we encountered was amazing,” says Avelien. “It wasn’t just their technical skill too. It was the empathy, kindness and sincerity in everything they did.”**



Yolanda and her husband Ben loved to travel and explore.



Avelien and Mum Yolanda in 2022.

Yolanda wished to remain at home for as long as possible, and Waipuna Hospice made that possible. With the help of her GP and Oncologist, they managed her pain and guided the family through their journey for nearly six months.

Her final days were peaceful. “While I hate that I had to say goodbye to mum, I’m pleased that I could be there with her in her final moments, to hold her hand and listen to her favourite songs together. Without the support of Waipuna Hospice, our experience could have been entirely different. **Her final days were peaceful. Mum was strong in her beliefs and with Waipuna Hospice wrapped around her, Mum had a really peaceful departure. They made what was a really hard journey a little bit easier, and made us feel less alone. For that, I am so grateful.**”

That gratitude led Avelien to take on the Hospice Hero Challenge in March. **“I don’t understand why hospices aren’t fully funded by the government. It’s such a crucial time, not just for the person dying, but for the family left behind.”** Knowing first-hand the impact of hospice care, she wanted to ensure other families received the same support.



Yolanda during her and Avelien's trip to Egypt and Jordan in November 2022.

Her challenge was simple: walk 10,000 steps a day. But for Avelien, it was about more than just fitness. It was about honouring her Mum's legacy and giving back to her community.

"The past couple of years have been busy with the opening of the hotel and my parents' health. As a result, I put my own health and wellness on the back burner. **The Hospice Hero Challenge was an incredible opportunity to reset.**"

Some days, she easily walked 18,000 steps; on others, she had to work hard to reach the 10,000-step goal. "The accountability of the challenge has been invaluable, keeping me motivated to persevere and reach my goal each day."

It was a personal challenge but also a way to give back. **"I couldn't fault Mum's journey with hospice. The support, both medical and emotional, was incredible. People don't realise how much hospices help families, not just in the final days but throughout the entire process."**

Step by step, Avelien honoured her Mum's memory while raising funds to support future hospice patients. And to anyone considering a challenge like this, she has one thing to say:

"Why not?"

"If you can find a challenge that aligns with your personal goals and supports your community at the same time, why not do it?"

Avelien's commitment doesn't stop there. She and her husband, Tere, own Quest Mt Maunganui, and as part of Quest's national partnership with hospices across New Zealand, they actively support Waipuna Hospice through their business.

"Hospice care isn't something you think about until you need it. But when you do, you realise just how invaluable it is," she says. "If my challenge helps even one family, then it was all worth it."

We want to say a huge thank you to Avelien for sharing her story with us. If you've been inspired by her story and would like to fundraise for Waipuna Hospice please email fundraising@waipunahospice.org.nz.



Yolanda and Ben with two of her grandchildren – Amia & Nico.

Remembrance Tree 2024

For the past 11 years, Farmers have been running their Tree of Remembrance campaign. This nationwide campaign offers New Zealanders the chance to remember those who cannot be with them during the festive season and to write them a message to hang on the tree. The campaign also encourages donations to local hospices and drives the sales of exclusive Farmers' baubles, with all proceeds coming back to hospices across New Zealand.

2024 proved to be a successful year and it was the first year that nationwide Farmers has raised over \$1 million for hospice care. In Tauranga alone, our Bayfair, Tauranga, and Crossing stores collectively raised \$46,545.97 which all came to Waipuna Hospice and will allow us to continue providing care and support for those in our community struggling with end-of-life and bereavement.



We also ran our own community collections in supermarkets, malls, and various markets across the December period as part of the Remembrance Tree campaign. From our own collections, we were able to raise \$31,200.62 which is incredible, bringing our combined total to \$77,746.59. To all of our amazing volunteers who dedicated their time at any of our collection stands, we could not have done this without you.

The teams at Farmers have been nothing but supportive of Waipuna Hospice and have gone above and beyond to ensure they raise as much as they can for a good cause. We cannot thank them and their teams enough for their continuous support and look forward to another amazing year this year.

If you want to get involved in this year's Remembrance Tree community collection contact fundraising@waipunahospice.org.nz and we will contact you later in the year with details.



Porting with Purpose



Left; Pazia, head of Marketing and Communications for Waipuna Hospice, Right: Rochelle head of Marketing for the Port of Tauranga

Driving across Tauranga's harbour bridge, it's easy to overlook the massive operation happening right before your eyes. As New Zealand's largest port, **the Port of Tauranga handled a staggering 23.6 million tonnes of cargo in the 2023/2024 financial year.** Once upon a time, locals could wander freely along the wharves, even casting a line to fish. But as the port has grown and health and safety regulations have tightened, public access has become restricted.

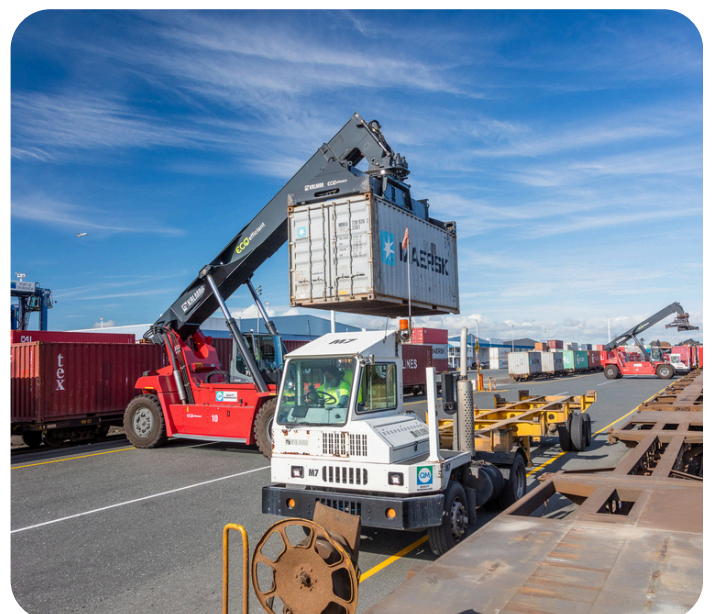
Thankfully, the Port of Tauranga still offers a rare glimpse behind the scenes through its popular community tours. These guided bus tours take visitors on an exclusive journey from the cruise ship docks through the bustling logging wharves and container yards, where cranes, forklifts, and straddle carriers work in perfect sync to move cargo.

With more than 1,400 ship visits a year, it's guaranteed you'll see plenty of action as the port continuously pieces together and dismantles a massive logistical puzzle.

Beyond its vital role in trade, the Port of Tauranga is also a haven for local wildlife, providing sanctuary to penguins, godwits, and dotterels. But its commitment to the community doesn't stop there. The port generously supports numerous charities and organisations across Tauranga, including Waipuna Hospice. For many years, all proceeds from tour ticket sales have been donated to Waipuna Hospice, helping to fund essential palliative care services. **Through the tours and other fundraising efforts, the Port of Tauranga has contributed over \$42,000 to Waipuna Hospice over the years,** an incredible show of generosity!

With tickets priced at just \$5, it's no surprise that the two weeks of tours offered each January sell out quickly. But for those who haven't yet had the chance to experience "a day on the port," there's good news! The Port of Tauranga will be running its next week of tours during the July school holidays.

Bookings open in June. To book your spot, call 07 572 8899 or visit the Port of Tauranga Facebook page.



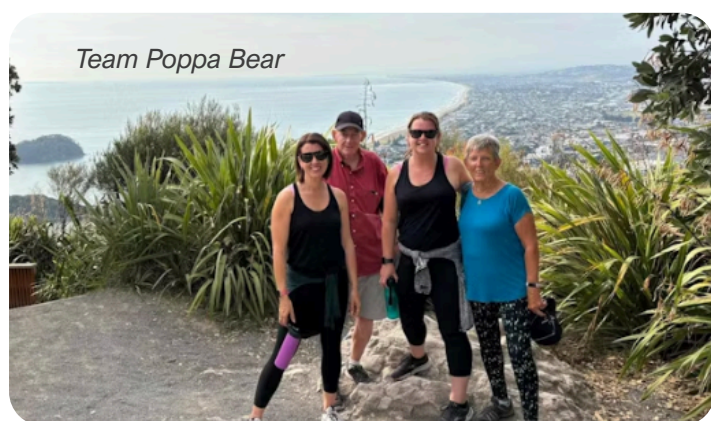
A reach stacker loading a container onto a mafi

Hospice Hero Challenge

This March we introduced the Hospice Hero Challenge. This challenge gave our community the opportunity to fundraise their own way, while also taking on a personal challenge. We encouraged those within our community to step out of their comfort zone and push themselves with some sort of active challenge and then the funds raised throughout March all came back to Waipuna Hospice to help us fund the vital care that we provide for the community.

Our support from the community was amazing and we had quite a variety of challenges happening. From cycling to work every day and walking 100km over the month of March, to cutting out sugar, no coffee, losing "x" amount of kilos, and 10,000 steps daily, we really did have it all. The great thing about the challenge was that people were able to tailor it to their lifestyle and work towards something that was going to benefit them mentally and physically, allowing them to become their own heroes while honouring their heroes who cannot be here with us today.

Thanks to the support of our community and their efforts of fundraising through close friends, family, workmates, and their community groups, we were able to raise \$6,673 from the challenge, which is incredible!!



Team Poppa Bear



Cheryl Harray & daughter

With our organisation only receiving 41% of our funding from the government, our community getting involved makes a massive difference to us, our patients and their whānau.

We were fortunate enough to have a few of our local businesses get on board and support the challenge, one being Quest Mt Maunganui. This year Quest donated a two-night stay towards the challenge which we used as a giveaway competition for everyone who signed up before the 16th of February. Our lucky winner Dan set himself a small fitness challenge to help encourage the habit of being active. Dan signed up for the challenge as his grandmother and his grandfather had both been through our services. He said, "Their time at Waipuna Hospice had an impact on him as a young person. The care and dignity provided to people in such a vulnerable position is heartwarming". Dan wanted to do something to give back, so signing up to the challenge was his way of saying thank you to hospice for the care and support that his family received.

If you have a business that would like to get involved in our next event/campaign, or you yourself would, please email us at events@waipunahospice.org.nz.

With thanks to...



Making a Difference

We love hearing about the positive impact we have on our community. Below are a few kind messages we have received from family and friends recently.

I wanted to reach out and sincerely thank you all for taking such superb care of my father whilst in your wonderful hospice. He was treated incredibly carefully and in such a dignified manner that we could spend all day with him but leave in the evening knowing he was in such good hands. The service, dedication, and professionalism is something you should be proud of and is a fantastic example of how we should look after, care for, and respect each other. I know that each time I drive past Waipuna Hospice it will be with very precious and positive memories each time. On behalf of us all, bless you all, keep up the fine work, and a sincere thanks.

Thank you for your care and support during Dad's last few months of life. Without you, we could not have had him at home with us which is what he wanted. A special thank you to a few nurses whom we had most contact with and to the nurses on the other end of the line when we rang in a panic or in tears. You all do an amazing job, and we so appreciated your calm & caring manner. I will be forever grateful.

I wish to convey my heartfelt thanks to all staff and nurses for the exceptional care and support carried out while my beloved partner stayed at Hospice Tauranga recently. The dignity and respect shown to him during his last days will always remain close to my heart. The difficult days at home before he was on site were helped by the amazing, dedicated nurses, counsellors and welfare staff visiting to support him and myself, please pass on my thanks for their wisdom and guidance.

Thank you all so much for your help and care; you were amazing. We really had no idea, but with your support and guidance, we were able to fulfill our friends wishes to be at home surrounded by family and friends. We couldn't have done that without you.

Help us be there - Today, Tomorrow, Always

Become a Regular Giver Today

At Waipuna Hospice, we believe that no one should face end of life alone. Our compassionate hospice team do so much more than provide medical care - they're a lifeline, offering kindness, guidance, and reassurance when it's needed most. But we need your help to continue supporting our dedicated care team and reach more people in need. By becoming a regular giver, you'll be part of something truly special, helping ensure that every moment counts for those we care for.



\$26

Per month

could fund a nurse's phone for one year, allowing them to respond quickly and effectively to patient needs.



\$40

Per month

could fund a community hospice nurse for one day, providing care and comfort to a patient in their home.

(based on unfunded hours over 12-month period)



\$62

Per month

could support one day of training wages for a new hospice nurse, helping us maintain our high standard of care.

Why Your Support Matters...

Demand for our services is growing. More people than ever need our specialised care, and with your support, we can continue to provide our skilled and compassionate team with the resources they need. Whether it's managing pain, offering emotional support, or simply being a comforting presence, hospice is there when it matters most.

For more information on how to become a regular giver, visit our website www.waipunahospice.org.nz/regular-giving/, email us at supporter@waipunahospice.org.nz or call 07 552 4380 to speak to one of our team.

A Tee-rific Effort for Hospice!

A huge thank you to Te Puke Women's Golf for their incredible support of Waipuna Hospice! Their annual fundraising lunch, organised by Jan Leggat, raised an amazing \$4,700 to help provide care and support for those facing a life-limiting illness.

The event featured a fun auction of goody bags packed with treasures from Waipuna Hospice Shops, along with fantastic prizes generously donated by local businesses. A special shoutout to **Dobsons Electrical Te Puke** for sponsoring the event, and to



Golf 360, Scott Curtis Golf Coach, Henry & Ted Café Papamoa, The Flying Mullet Sports Bar, and Caci Skin Clinic for their generous prize donations.

Since 2015, Te Puke Women's Golf has been a dedicated supporter of Waipuna Hospice, and we are so grateful for their continued kindness. Thank you to everyone involved for making a real difference in our community!

A Small Act, a Big Impact: Volunteer for Hospice!

We are always in need of volunteers to help us here at Waipuna Hospice, and we have a variety of roles available.

If you have just a few hours to spare each week, we would really appreciate the help. Our six charity shops around Tauranga and the Western Bay of Plenty are looking for help, especially for a few weekend shifts.

If you are in a position to help or want more details on the stores and hours, please email volunteers@waipunahospice.org.nz



Did you know...

\$1.29m

worth of time was donated by our volunteers based on minimum wage in the 23/24 financial year?

Squeaky Clean

Those who have visited us here in Te Puna will know we have a large whare and expansive grounds to maintain, a task that can feel overwhelming at times. Thanks to the amazing team at Gallagher Insurance, having clean windows is one less thing we have to worry about. The team came together and spent an afternoon on site, sharing the workload, having fun and leaving every window looking sparkling and refreshed!

Inspired by the Gallagher Insurance team and want to help us maintain our building and grounds in other ways? Email us at volunteers@waipunahospice.org.nz.



Teeing Up a Sweet Shot!

The 2025 Barfoot & Thompson Bay of Plenty 5 Course Classic recently wrapped up. This incredible tournament ran from the 20th - 24th of January and marked 30 years as New Zealand's longest-running and biggest multi-course golf tournament.

The Barfoot and Thompson team were kind enough to dedicate one of their gazebo stations on the Omanu Golf Course to help promote Waipuna Hospice as well as set up an activity to help raise funds.

Hitting a golf ball came quite easy to the golfers who were taking part in the competition this year so we challenged them, and for some humbled them, to see who could hit a marshmallow the furthest.

The activity caused a lot of laughter between teammates as well as some surprising competition to win awesome prizes, but it also made a big impact to our community. The donation entry into the activation collectively raised \$602 which was all donated back to Waipuna Hospice.

We'd like to extend our thanks to the team at Barfoot and Thompson, and Ian Wilson for their generosity and support and for demonstrating that fundraising can be fun!!



BIG OR SMALL WE NEED IT ALL!

*Donate your clean, quality goods to our
charity shops today!!*



Help those facing terminal illness and bereavement by donating your clean, quality goods to Waipuna Hospice Charity Shops. Every donation helps bring comfort and support to those facing one of life's biggest challenges.

Drop your donations off at any Waipuna Hospice Charity Shop, Depot, or **book a free collection by calling us on 07 281 1755.**

Have You Thought About Your Legacy?

Leaving a gift in your Will is a meaningful way to ensure that hospice care is available for those who need it today, tomorrow, and for years to come.

At Waipuna Hospice, we rely on the generosity of our community to continue providing compassionate care. A bequest, no matter the size, helps us support patients and their families when they need it most.

If you're considering leaving a legacy, we're here to help. Talk to your adviser or contact Waipuna Hospice at **0800 4 WAIPUNA** (0800 492 478) to request an information pack and learn more about making a lasting impact.

Did you know...

This financial year alone, we have looked after

790

patients, and at the time of printing this newsletter, we are currently caring for

249

patients?



Waipuna Hospice's

CHARITY SHOP ROAD MAP

Our six charity shops are just the place to get your shopping done. We receive new stock daily and can guarantee you will always find a bargain. Why not shop and give back to your community at the same time!!

Katikati

17 Main Road, Katikati
Mon - Fri - 9am - 4pm
Sat - 9am - 2pm
Sun - Closed

Heading to the mural capital of the country? Our Katikati store has fabulous window displays, friendly team members and a great shop layout to make finding treasures a breeze!

Greerton

1267 Cameron Road, Greerton
Mon - Fri - 9am - 4pm
Sat - 10am - 3pm
Sun - Closed

Touring around all the op shops in Greerton? Have a look in our windows at our brilliant displays, and come in for a range of high-quality items.

Fraser St

271 Fraser Street, Fraser Cove
Mon - Fri - 9am - 4pm
Sat - 10am - 3pm
Sun - Closed

Come into our Fraser St store when you're doing some shopping at Fraser Cove. It's a true treasure trove, with an amazing selection of furniture at great prices, and friendly and knowledgeable team members!

Mount Maunganui

35 MacDonald Street, Mount Maunganui
Mon - Fri - 9am - 4pm
Sat - Sun - 10am - 3pm

Our Mount Maunganui Shop bustles with locals and tourists all donating and shopping from the beautiful collection of goods curated in stunning displays. We also have our Waipuna Wares section in our Mount store where everything is \$2

Papamoa

157 Domain Road, Papamoa
Mon - Fri - 9am - 4pm
Sat - Sun - 10am - 2.30pm

From everything quirky and vintage through to household goods, clothing and furniture, stop by our Papamoa store on your way to the beach or the Plaza – plus we've got plenty of parking!

Te Puke

200 Jellicoe Street, Te Puke
Mon - Fri - 10am - 4pm
Sat - 10am - 3pm
Sun - Closed

Our Te Puke shop is a perfect pit stop when travelling through on a roadie or to your favourite fishing spot. The quirkiest store with bric-a-brac, clothing and singing galore!

Dates for Your Diary

Shorts

This year our annual Shorts day will be held on Thursday the 19th of June.

Shorts is a day where you wear the brightest, boldest, craziest, most trendy shorts while raising money for Waipuna Hospice.

Shorts is a great initiative for all businesses, groups, and schools to get involved with. For more info email fundraising@waipunahospice.org.nz



Third Space

A local band called Third Space are teaming up with the Bay of Plenty Symphonia to put on a show in support of hospice at Baycourt on the 23rd of August. Keep an eye on the Baycourt website as well as our social media pages for more ticket information.



Hospice Awareness Week

Hospice Awareness Week (HAWK) is on the 12-18th of May this year. There will be a lot of advocacy work happening nationally and locally this week, as well as donation collections in local supermarkets and shopping centres.

Want to get involved with HAWK and volunteer to collect community donations? We only need two hours of your time and there are 12 locations around Tauranga where you can help.

To sign up to be a volunteer this Hospice Awareness Week please visit <https://waipunahospice.org.nz/2025/04/hawk-2025/> or call 07 552 4380.



Support Hospice with Merchandise



Drink Bottles

Stay hydrated with our new 800ml stainless steel Waipuna Hospice drink bottles with the options of vibrant green or bold orange! Durable, eco-friendly, easy to use and supporting a great cause - get yours today!

\$35
Each

\$14
per pack



Watercolour Cards

Purchase a pack of our beautiful greeting cards, with artwork donated by two local artists. We have our Tauranga scenery cards which capture some of our gems in the Bay and we also have our watercolour flower pack with abstract and expressive pieces of nature showing off their beauty

Order yours now by returning the below form, shop online at www.waipunahospice.org.nz/shop-with-us/#shop-merchandise or call 07 552 4380 ext 211.

Keep these easy to donate details handy!

4 EASY WAYS TO DONATE



1. Mail the coupon on the right to:
Waipuna Hospice
PO Box 16299
Bethlehem
Tauranga 3147



2. Internet Banking:
Please confirm your donation by emailing:

supporter@waipunahospice.org.nz

Waipuna Hospice account details:

Waipuna Hospice Inc
03 0435 0469107 02

Ref: WCAPR24

Please include your phone number.



3. Phone 07 552 4380
Ext. 211



4. Donate or shop online at:

waipunahospice.org.nz



I would like to make a donation so people in our community facing a terminal illness can receive the care they need.

Step 1 - My Gift ☐ \$30 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$100 \$ (other)

Step 2 - Donation Frequency ☐ One-off ☐ Set-up a regular donation for more impact

↳ ☐ Please send me a direct debit form

↳ ☐ Debit my credit card (see step 3)

Step 3 - My Payment
(if paying via credit card)

Card Number

Expiry Date

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Name on Card

Signature

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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I would like to purchase the following Waipuna Hospice merchandise (GST included)

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Green Water Bottle \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> Tauranga Scenery Cards 4pk \$14 | <input type="checkbox"/> EVES Cookbook \$20 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Orange Water Bottle \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> Watercolour Flower Cards 4pk \$14 | |

TOTAL \$ + \$5 shipping on all merchandise orders

☐ I would like to cover the 2.5% card transaction fee for Waipuna Hospice.

My Details

Title	First Name	Last Name	Date of Birth
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Address			
Phone		Email	

☐ I would like to receive future communications via email.

☐ I would like to know more about becoming a regular giver to maximise my impact.

Donations of \$5 or more may qualify for a tax rebate. Charity # CC2206
If you wish to unsubscribe, please notify us at communications@waipunahospice.org.nz