

WAIPUNA *Connections*

Bringing you closer to the lives you help change



Inside this issue: Hanneke's discovery that hospice care doesn't end with the patient | Walk for Waipuna success
Meet our Community Nurse Kassia | Upcoming events
Community appreciation | Homes for Hospice

Our Community, Our Hospice.

A word from our CEO, David Bryant.

As you will read throughout this newsletter, the past few months have been filled with incredible examples of community support, and I continue to be humbled by the generosity and kindness of the people who stand alongside Waipuna Hospice.

Every dollar raised, every hour volunteered, and every act of support helps make our care possible. On behalf of everyone at Waipuna Hospice, I want to say thank you.

I also wanted to take this opportunity to talk about hospice funding.

You may have recently seen media coverage announcing a \$12 million funding increase for New Zealand's hospice sector from Health New Zealand. While we welcome this investment and recognise it will make a meaningful difference for some hospices around the country, unfortunately, Waipuna Hospice was not a significant recipient of additional funding.

This year, Health New Zealand funding will contribute just 44% of Waipuna Hospice's total annual operating costs of \$14.9 million. The remaining funding must come from our community through donations, fundraising activities, grants, bequests, corporate partnerships, and our shops.

Like many organisations, we continue to face rising costs. At the same time, Tauranga and the Western BOP is one of New Zealand's fastest-growing regions. Demand for hospice services continues to increase, and the complexity of care required by patients is greater than ever before.



Shelley (Volunteer Manager), Warrick (Volunteer of the quarter), and David Bryant (CEO).

This year, Waipuna Hospice must raise more than \$8.3 million simply to continue providing the services we offer today, free of charge.

But maintaining today's services is only part of the challenge. As our population grows and needs evolve, we know there is more we could be doing. Expanding access to care, increasing specialist capacity, strengthening support services, and responding to emerging needs all require additional investment.

I share this because there is a real risk that announcements like this create the impression that hospice funding challenges have been solved. The reality is that they have not. Community support remains just as important today as it was before this announcement. In fact, it is community support that enables us not only to sustain our care but to grow and evolve our services to meet the needs of future generations.

What gives me confidence is knowing that we are part of a community that cares deeply for one another. Time and again, we see people step forward to help ensure patients and whānau receive the care and support they deserve. Together, we can continue building a hospice service that not only meets today's needs, but is ready for tomorrow's as well.

Ngā mihi nui,

David Bryant
CEO, Waipuna Hospice

Walk for Waipuna

100KM IN 30 DAYS

**\$30,000
RAISED!**

TOGETHER WE WALKED. TOGETHER WE MADE AN IMPACT.

A huge thank you to everyone who took part in, donated to, and supported this year's Walk for Waipuna. Together, you helped raise \$30,000 to support specialist palliative care and bereavement services in our community. Amazing! We must say a special thank you to our top individual fundraiser, Nicola M, who raised \$1,800, and the top fundraising team, Tia Rodger's 🌸 You Do You 🌸 Crew, who raised \$3,000, for their outstanding efforts.

It was wonderful to see so many people walking in memory of loved ones, alongside friends and whānau, and in support of hospice care. A special thank you also to our prize sponsors for your generosity and for helping make this fundraiser so special:

- Smith Sport Shoes Tauranga
- Boost Reformer Pilates
- Harbourside
- Sauna Project
- Hauora Sanctuary
- Quest
- Olive Tree Catering
- Real Rad Food

We're already looking ahead and planning Walk for Waipuna 2027, so watch this space!



Lindsay M



Nicola M



Pam W



David B

Staff Spotlight

Kassia Daysh

Community Nurse

How would you describe your role to someone who's never experienced hospice care?

As a Community Nurse, I support people living with life-limiting illnesses in their own homes, helping them live as comfortably and fully as possible. Every patient and whānau is different, so the care we provide is individualised, compassionate and holistic. From managing complex symptoms to working alongside GPs and other healthcare professionals, our focus is always on improving quality of life and supporting people through every stage of their journey.

What's one thing you wish more people knew about Waipuna Hospice?

I think many people assume hospice is only for the very end of life, but that's not the case. We provide specialist palliative care and support much earlier, helping patients manage complex symptoms and improve their quality of life, most of the time while they're still living at home. Often our support is provided in episodes of care. We may become involved when someone needs specialist input, step back when things are well managed, and return again if their needs change. Alongside this, we support whānau and other healthcare providers with education and advice.

What do you enjoy most about being a Community Nurse at Waipuna Hospice?

I genuinely love coming to work each day. Caring for people during what can be one of



Kassia Daysh outside Waipuna Hospice, where she works as a Community Nurse.

the most difficult times in their lives is a real privilege, and being welcomed into their homes and trusted by their whānau is something I never take for granted. If I can bring even a small amount of comfort or reassurance to someone, that's incredibly rewarding.

How are you continuing to grow and develop in your career?

I'm currently completing my dissertation towards a Master of Nursing, researching a topic I'm deeply passionate about - addressing the ongoing inequities Māori experience in accessing specialist palliative care. I hope my research can help create meaningful change, both here in our community and across the wider health sector.

I'm always looking for opportunities to learn and grow so I can provide the best possible care for my patients. While I'm considering a prescribing pathway in the future, the most rewarding part of my career will always be walking alongside patients and whānau and making a difference in their lives.



Every family cared for today, is
thanks to those who gave yesterday.

WAIPUNA HOSPICE Circle of Care

We are often asked, 'how can I help?' from grateful families, so we created the **Waipuna Hospice Circle of Care**.

Our Circle of Care programme is a beautiful way for you to honour the life of your loved one, express your gratitude, and help ensure others can live their final days with comfort, dignity, and peace.

What begins as
care received
becomes care
given.

Scan the QR
code to find
out more.



Hospice care doesn't end with the patient.

When people think of hospice care, they often picture medical support at the very end of life. But for many, hospice care extends far beyond the patient, providing guidance, comfort and ongoing support for those left behind.

For Ōmokoroa local Hanneke de Graaf, Waipuna Hospice became part of her family's journey after her husband, Adrian, was diagnosed with terminal cancer.

A Waipuna Hospice nurse and social worker visited the couple at home over 10 days, helping them navigate difficult conversations and prepare for what lay ahead.

"They asked him if he knew he was going to die," Hanneke recalls. "I found this openness liberating and was impressed with their handling of the conversation."

As Adrian's needs increased, it became clear he required around-the-clock care. With no capacity at the Waipuna Hospice In-patient Unit, Adrian transitioned into care at Radius Matua, where he spent his final weeks.

Reflecting on their experience, Hanneke says,



Adrian and Hanneke in Whitford in 2023.



Hanneke and Adrian on holiday in the Chatam Islands before his terminal diagnosis.

"Waipuna Hospice is a fantastic, caring organisation, and it's not just somewhere you go to die. It's so much more than that."

What really stood out to Hanneke was that Waipuna Hospice's care didn't end with Adrian. It continued with her.

Through Waipuna Hospice's free counselling service, she found a safe space to grieve, helping her navigate the complex journey of losing a loved one.

"So many emotions controlled me that I did not know if I was coming or going," she says. "I booked in to see Julia, a counsellor at Waipuna Hospice, and I am so glad I did."

"I was listened to. I cried. I felt relieved that everything was totally acceptable – what I went through, what I did or did not do."

She returned for further counselling after Adrian's death, finding the same empathy and understanding that had supported them throughout his illness.

"Like the first time, I was listened to. No wisecracks, no trying to uplift me. But empathy with all those emotions, recognising them and helping me to find clarity... not to forget the emotions, but to work through them and live with the grieving process in all its facets."

For Julia Milne, Counsellor at Waipuna Hospice, this support is about meeting people where they are.

"As counsellors, we are so privileged to be allowed into that profound and sacred space with our patients and families. That most vulnerable space where we share their hopes and fears as they work to make sense of their journey into dying and death."

"Our work may be to help people figure out their thoughts, find the words to express them, learn ways to relax in the face of great challenges, or it may be to simply listen."

Hanneke's story is a reminder that our care doesn't end with the patient. Grief doesn't follow a timetable, and family support often continues after a loved one has died.

Waipuna Hospice's counselling service is available free of charge to families and whānau, providing a safe space to process loss and navigate life after bereavement.

Alongside counselling, bereavement support groups in Te Puna, and now Katikati and Te Puke, offer the opportunity to connect with others who understand the journey of grief.

As Julia explains, "Grief is the way we adjust to the physical loss of someone we love, and it can be hard to believe that anything will ever be okay again. It may also be a time when old wounds reopen, which feels even more painful.



Waipuna Hospice Counsellor, Julia Milne.

Together with my colleagues Rata and Karen, we help people navigate through their grief, and we see it as a privilege to do so."

Every journey is different, but no one should have to navigate it alone.

Support like Hanneke received is only possible because of the generosity of our community. By joining our regular giving programme, you can help ensure more people receive the same compassionate care and support when they need it most. Please become a regular giver today by scanning the QR code or using the form at the end of this newsletter.



Alongside counselling, Hanneke found comfort in expressing her thoughts through writing. She has kindly shared *The Dream*, a personal reflection on the loss of her beloved Adrian.

The Dream

A few years back
I had this recurring dream.
You and I walked in a town
suddenly you disappeared.
I looked everywhere for you
street in street out
climbing over rubble
pushing my way through crowds.

I awoke and you were asleep
next to me.
At breakfast I told you my dream and
you said I will never leave you.
And then you did leave me.
I watched your last breath
like a deep sigh.
The dream never returned

Property Brokers^B

A POP, ROCK & DISCO CHARITY CONCERT

THIRD SPACE — SYMPHONY — *No.2*

FRIDAY 28 & SATURDAY 29 AUGUST



SCAN HERE TO GET
TICKETS, OR VISIT
THE BAYCOURT
WEBSITE

PROUDLY SUPPORTING



BAYCOURT
WHERE THE ARTS COME ALIVE!



Could You Spare a Few Hours? Our Charity Shops Need You!

Every purchase made in a Waipuna Hospice Charity Shop helps fund our care. But behind every sale is a team of incredible volunteers who give their time to make it all possible.

Right now, we're urgently looking for friendly, reliable volunteers to join our team, especially in our Te Puke and Papamoa Charity Shops!

Your time will make a genuine difference. From greeting customers and merchandising stock to sorting donations and creating a welcoming shopping experience, there's a role to suit a range of interests and abilities.

Volunteering is also a wonderful way to meet new people, learn skills, stay active, and give back to your local community.

If you've ever thought about volunteering, now is the perfect time to get involved.

Interested? We'd love to hear from you. Contact our Volunteer Services Team by calling 07 552 4380 ext. 219.





Dedicate a Shining Star

to a loved one and help us *light up* Waipuna Hospice.

Although no longer with us, our loved ones shine brightly in our hearts. Donate a Shining Star in their memory, and celebrate the light they left behind. By dedicating a star, you'll be helping us provide care and comfort to those facing one of life's toughest challenges.

Dedicate your star at

www.shining-stars-2026.raiselysite.com

Hole Sponsors Wanted

Support Waipuna Hospice while putting your business in front of local golfers and supporters at our Annual Charity Golf Tournament.

Your business can sponsor a hole and help ensure local families continue to receive hospice care and support when they need it most.

- Friday 20th November
- Omanu Golf Club
- 12.30pm Tee Off
- 18-Hole Ambrose Competition

To find out more about hole sponsorship opportunities, please call 07 552 4380 ext. 211. or email events@waipunahospice.org.nz

Tee up your support today.



A little from you. A lot for Hospice.

One bag. One box. One armful. Big impact.

Just one bag of clothing could raise \$217 for Waipuna Hospice. Please donate items at any of our shops or depots today and help fund compassionate end-of-life care in your community.

Thank you, Port of Tauranga!



A huge thank you to the Port of Tauranga for sponsoring one of Waipuna Hospice's donation collection trucks for the next year.

Every day, our collection trucks pick up donated goods that help stock our charity shops and raise vital funds. This sponsorship helps keep one of those trucks on the road, supporting the collection of thousands of items.

We are incredibly grateful for the Port of Tauranga's support and commitment to helping ensure local families continue to receive care and support when they need it most.

Homes for Hospice is Back!

We're excited to share that Homes for Hospice has returned, once again thanks to our partnership with **The Northern Group**.

If you missed it late last year, Homes for Hospice is a simple but powerful idea: when a selected property is sold, 100% of the commission is donated to Waipuna Hospice. It's a generous model that turns an everyday sale into real, local impact for patients and whānau in our care.

The first Homes for Hospice property sold late last year, **raising an incredible \$38,400 for Waipuna Hospice**. We're so grateful to everyone involved in making that possible! It was a fantastic example of what can happen when community and businesses come together with purpose.

Now, the initiative is back with its second property: 172 Mansels Road, Parkvale.

Described by The Northern Group as a "fabulous choice for first home buyers, tucked down the end of a cul-de-sac," this home



presents a wonderful opportunity for someone in the market to purchase a first home or investment property.

If you, or someone you know, is in the market for a new home, we encourage you to take a look. **By purchasing through Homes for Hospice, you won't just be securing a property, you'll also be helping provide compassionate care to local patients and their families.**

A huge thank you to The Northern Group for championing this initiative and for helping us find new, meaningful ways to fund our care. And Boundless Vision, Real Estate.co.nz, One Roof, and TradeMe for your support.

**VIEW THE
PROPERTY HERE >>**



Thank You, Mount Ocean Sports Club!

We'd like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the incredible Mount Ocean Sports Club for raising an outstanding \$50,000 for Waipuna Hospice through their recent Koi Boys fundraising evening.

This remarkable achievement was made possible by the generosity of the club's sponsors, members and guests, who came together for an unforgettable night of live music, auctions and community spirit in support of local hospice care. Every dollar raised will help ensure people in our community can continue to access free specialist palliative care and bereavement support when they need it most.

To everyone who attended, donated, bid, or helped



bring the event to life – thank you.

We are deeply grateful to Mount Ocean Sports Club for choosing to support Waipuna Hospice and for demonstrating the incredible impact a community can have when it comes together for a shared cause.

Awareness Week Success

A huge thank you to everyone who helped make this year's Awareness Week such a success. Together, our community raised an incredible \$65,000 to support Waipuna Hospice.

Whether you donated, volunteered, shared our stories, attended an event, or helped spread the word about the vital role we play in our community, **thank you**. You made a meaningful difference.

A special thank you to Shaun and Isla Lemberg, who bravely shared their story. Shaun has since passed away, and we are incredibly grateful to him and his family for leaving such a meaningful legacy through their willingness to share.

Hospice Awareness Week is about more than fundraising; it's about raising awareness, starting important conversations, and reminding people that hospice is here to support families through some of life's most challenging moments.





Drink Bottles

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

Order yours now by returning the below form, scanning the QR code, or call 07 552 4380 ext 211.



Thank You to our Supporters

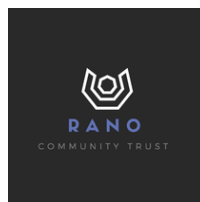
We could not provide the level of care that we do without funding from our local community, and we want to thank those below for their support.



TECT



Lottery Grants Board
Te Puna Tahua
LOTTO FUNDS FOR YOUR COMMUNITY



KD Kirkby Charitable Trust

BOP Community legacy Fund managed by Perpetual Guardian

Mackay Strathnaver TRUST



Keep these easy to donate details handy!

4 EASY WAYS TO DONATE



Mail the blue coupon to:
Waipuna Hospice
PO Box 16299
Bethlehem
Tauranga 3147



Internet Banking:
Please confirm your donation by emailing:
supporter@waipunahospice.org.nz

Waipuna Hospice bank account details:

Waipuna Hospice
03 0435 0469107 02
Ref: WCJUL26

Please include your phone number.



Phone 07 552 4380
Ext. 211



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

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Name on Card

Signature

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I would like to purchase the following Waipuna Hospice merchandise (GST included)

☐ Watercolour Flower Cards 4pk - \$14 ☐ Eves Cookbook - \$20
☐ Tauranga Scenery Cards 4pk - \$14 ☐ Water bottle - \$35 → ☐ Green ☐ Orange ☐ Black

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

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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.
☐ I would like to know more about leaving a gift in my Will for Waipuna Hospice.

Donations of \$5 or more may qualify for a tax rebate. Charity # CC63387
If you wish to unsubscribe, please notify us at communications@waipunahospice.org.nz