

i n Site

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4 October 2006 Issue 59

Twice blessed

About 100 people came last week to the blessing of the new home for Adult Mental Health Services (Te Rangi-Ora). Following Rev Hariata Tahana and tohunga Mike Kawana as they moved through the new premises in the old children's ward were DHB staff, Board members, consumers, community mental health providers and interested members of the community.

Te Rangi-Ora has a small crisis respite and recovery unit in the old children's ward area, and can accommodate up to 5 consumers at a time. The centre of the building is the new public reception area, with entry from the adjacent carpark. The old maternity area now houses the community mental health team and the crisis assessment and treatment team, with offices and meeting rooms included.

At the end of the journey around the new premises, Mihi Namana led the group in a song she had composed for the occasion.

"The blessing marks a new beginning and clears the way for the future," she said.



Left to right: Helen Rimene (wife of late Kuki Rimene), Henare Te Kani, Mike Kawana and Mihi Namana.

Ka huakina tenei whare
O te rohe mo te katoa
Hei poipoi te kimi ora
A wairua a Hinengaro

We have opened this house
In the region for everybody
To support spritual and mental
wellbeing.

Tu mai ra Te Rangi-ora
mo te hunga rangirua
Kia piki te kaha me te ora
Kia tu tangata hoki aue.

Stand tall, Rangi-Ora
For those who will come to
seek your help
So they will be made strong
and stand tall in the community.



Focus staff from left: Beverley Redvers, Debra Hall, Philippa Hintz, Rosemary Burke, Andrea Wilson, Louise Jones, Helene Dore, Jane Flowerday, Bev Nation and Leigh Vincent.

The FOCUS team 'moved house' the day before the mental health move, and Rev. Tahana blessed their new premises in the old Selina Sutherland Hospital before moving on to bless Te Rangi-Ora.

FOCUS staff are delighted to be in their new building, after becoming increasingly 'squashed' in their shared accommodation with Choice Health in Chapel Street, as demand for their services meant an increase in their team size. They say their new accomodation is fresh and welcoming and they have had a lot more callers since moving in last week.

With compliments

How do we know we are doing a good job? And do we believe it when we receive compliments? It's easy to down-play what we do - but a look through the 'customer feedback' forms each month leaves us in no doubt that our organisation is very highly regarded indeed - thanks to the people that are its backbone. Listen to some of these.....

"I wish to highly commend your District Nursing service extremely helpful and cheerful... assisted me beyond the call of duty...."

"Mental health crisis respite have enabled me to enjoy time out in a relaxed, safe and supervised environment... appreciated their caring, friendly approach..."

"Nursing staff have been great, keeping me going with postive attitude and great sense of humour..."

"(OT) ... arranged an internet connection for me while I was bedridden....it was no small thing..."

Introducing



Nina Ashraff, ophthalmologist, has just started work at Wairarapa Hospital on a permanent contract one day a week. Every Tuesday she will have a theatre and clinic session and has already reduced waiting lists for surgery and first specialist assessment. Nina qualified at Leeds University in 1995 and then worked as a house surgeon and senior house officer in various areas of medicine including A&E, endocrinology, neurosurgery and ophthalmology. Nina trained at Manchester Royal Eye Hospital, one of the three biggest eye hospitals in the UK, and she completed her senior registrar training there. She took some time out to work on various aid projects, one conducting mobile clinics in India and another in Peru. In Peru she spent two weeks at a charity eye camp with a team of nurses, aid workers and ophthalmologists working day and night to do cataract operations. Also during her specialist training Nina spent a year in Wellington on a glaucoma fellowship. She gained her FRCophth last year and is now based in Wellington where she works part-time for the Thorndon Eye Clinic.

Nina finds ophthalmology rewarding and challenging. "The eyes are a window on so many different medical problems such as diabetes. It is a satisfying medical speciality especially where you can help patients regain vision."

Nina is also keen on outdoor opportunities New Zealand offers, especially cycling and snowboarding.

Bonus for patients



Military ball organisers, George Bates, Paul Walker, Tweet Bird, Joan Dean and Hospital Manager, Anne Mclean, beside the TV in the Day Case Lounge.

The Wairarapa Military Ball Committee held their last ball in 1989 and they have had a surplus of \$1300 in the kitty ever since. They wound up their organisation recently and bought three TVs for Wairarapa Hospital with the funds. Two are in patient lounges in MedSurg and one in Day Case. Newbolds donated a couple of consoles and the Wairarapa Community Health Trust topped up the fund to cover the full cost of the TVs.

Security Reminder

Since migration to the new hospital a number of areas have been vacated and there have been incidents near or in the old hospital involving break-ins, stolen gear and a car broken into. Please be security conscious especially if you go into areas now empty. Be sure to close doors behind you and make sure your cars are locked.

DAP Summary

The plain english summary of our District Annual Plan has now been circulated and it is also on the website www.wairarapa.dhb.org.nz.

Challenge: grab a highlighter and mark every item you will play a part in over the next 12 months. How many? Additional copies are available from the Board Secretary, Extn 5100, if you need some.

Run for Cancer.

Relay for Life is now launched and looking for people to form teams to walk, jog or run and to raise money for cancer support in the Wairarapa



Relay For Life is a fantastic, fun-filled 17 hour community event to celebrate cancer survivors and raise money for the Cancer Society to provide the much needed free services for people and families affected by cancer throughout the Wairarapa. **All proceeds remain in the Wairarapa.**

A team event with a party atmosphere, camping out, entertainment, food, games, camaraderie and for those that want, competition. The relay begins at 4.00pm Saturday 10th February and continues on through the night until 9.00am Sunday 11th.

Ask Jill or Jan, Communications Unit, for entry form. Ext.5883 or communications @wairarapa.dhb.org.nz.

Weblink: www.wairarapa.dhb.org.nz/about/wairarapa_dhb/news