

Generous donation



From left: (Bro) Chris Blank, (Bro) Les Morehu, Wendy Turton of Kahukura, Alan Bohm Hospice Wairarapa Trustee, and Richard Dahlberg, Buffalo Lodge.

Enjoying the outdoors at Hospice Wairarapa's Kowhai house will be easier in future thanks to the donation of two picnic tables by Buffalo Lodge with the support of JNL.

"It's nice to be able to put something back in the community," said Buffalo Lodge chairman Richard Dahlberg. "There is almost no-one not touched by losing a loved one. It's about doing what we can to make life a little more comfortable for terminally ill people and their families."

Mr Dahlberg said the Lodge, a charitable and social organisation, has adopted palliative care as its local charity cause and plans further contributions to help support terminally ill people and their families.

Last month the Lodge made a generous cash donation to Kahukura, Wairarapa's palliative care service.

Three new staff at Child and Adolescent Mental Health



From left: Karen Below-Patara, Ray Kawana and Wendy Faust

The Child and Adolescent Mental Health team is now working at full strength with the arrival over recent weeks of: new team member Karen Below-Patara, a returning team member, Ray Kawana, and a parental leave cover post being filled by Wendy Faust.

"It's fantastic to see the service up to full strength," says Raewyn Woodhouse, acting team leader. "These three appointments increase the diversity of the team and of course means that we can meet the needs of our client base more effectively. The team of twelve professionals work with children and young people up to the age of 18 years. They diagnose and support young people with anxiety, depression, emotional trauma and any other related mental health issues. Working along side a young person's family/whanau is an integral part of our treatment in working with young people at CAMHS, and families in the Wairarapa can feel confident in receiving the support they need when they access our service."

Karen Below-Patara joins the team as a Maori Mental Health Professional. "The skills and experience of the CAMHS team means that each client can be well-matched to a professional. My strength is around occupational

therapy. For most children and young people 'play' is their occupation, some don't know how to play and they become very isolated. I can work with them to develop appropriate patterns. I can support family and community members to ensure that their work for the child, as a mother for example, is appropriate and supportive."

Ray Kawana has returned to the team after an eight year absence. Most recently he has worked within schools through a programme operated by Rangitane o Wairarapa. Ray's long career in social work and growing number of qualifications is an asset to the team. "It's great to work under the Wairarapa DHB again and see how many improvements have been made to monitoring the quality of service provision. Working under the very clear structure the Ministry of Health has developed means that our resources are targeted very clearly. As a team we can support and individual and work with their community towards a positive outcome. For those that do not meet our needs-based criteria there are clear pathways for these families to travel."

Another big change for the service since I was here last is the move from the hospital grounds to Renall Street. This, I think, is a real positive for our consumers, especially teenagers who feel more comfortable here."

Wendy Faust is a clinical psychologist covering parental leave at CAMHS. Following many years of living and working in Sydney, Wendy returned to NZ in 2006 to complete her post-graduate qualifications at Victoria University. "I am really looking forward to working with this multi-disciplinary team. I bring to the team my skills in assessment, particularly cognitive assessments, as well as treatment from a cognitive behavioural approach. Being part of a team to support clients with complex needs is very exciting."

CAMHS are currently renovating a space at Renall Street as a 'play assessment room'. They are looking for donations of quality bean bags, lego, blocks, jigsaws and durable wooden toys to support their work in this area. Contact Karen at CAMHS if you can help.

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Kahukura on the move



Palliative care specialist and community nurses now based at Te Kowhai with Fred Wheeler, Clinical Nurse Manager Community and Palliative Care Services.



Absent: (Above from left) Pam Brown, Clinical Nurse Specialist and Wendy Turton, Palliative Care Facilitator.

From left: Carol Hinton and Anne Savage, Clinical Nurse Specialists with Community Nurses Bryn Tate, Carol Simons, Marilyn Pansters, Mary Norman, Linda Oldfield, Alexis McKenzie.

Kahukura, Wairarapa's palliative care service is on the move. The DHB-funded service is moving from its present base in Lincoln Road and is joining the Hospice Wairarapa Community Trust in their new premises at 59 Renall St, Masterton.

From 6th September 'Te Kowhai', the Renall Street base for Hospice Wairarapa, will house Kahukura's palliative community and specialist nurses who care for people who are terminally ill and their families in their homes. Together with GPs and allied health professionals such as social workers and occupational therapists they provide a 24 hour service throughout the district ensuring that a high level of clinical care and support is maintained until the end of life. Bereavement support services will also be offered. Te Omanga specialist doctors will continue to provide weekly clinics for patients either at Te Kowhai or in the patient's own home. This ongoing clinical support enables a palliative patient to remain at home, if that is their choice, for as long as possible. 'Te Kowhai' does not offer in-patient accommodation.

General Manager Clinical Services, Kieran McCann, says Kahukura staff are very pleased about the move. "We will combine with the Hospice as one team providing holistic palliative care for the whole community. There are economies of scale having one base and it should resolve any confusion the public might have. For patients, families, friends and staff it will be a one stop shop. We will be able to use the skills of the Hospice volunteers and it will be more spacious. We'll have a huge living room for training

and a sitting room for patients and family. This is a really positive move and everyone sees the advantages."

The Hospice Board and volunteer team are also excited about Kahukura's nursing team relocating into their Renall St premises. "It will make the patient referral process easier and enable more communication between both parties," says Hospice Wairarapa Community Trust Chairman Lloyd Wilson. "Those factors will greatly enhance our common goal to deliver the best possible palliative care services to the people of the Wairarapa."

The Hospice Wairarapa team will complement the Kahukura service with their team of volunteers offering support services such as equipment, biographies and practical support for patients and families in their homes, plus non-residential patient/family support programmes at 'Te Kowhai'.

"This is a new era for palliative care in the Wairarapa," says, Tracey Adamson, Wairarapa DHB's CEO. "We look forward to working with the Hospice Wairarapa Community Trust in partnership and from the one base. It is a great move."

There will be an official welcome at 10am on 6 September at 'Te Kowhai' to welcome Kahukura on board.

More Support for Midwives



Michelle Thomas has added the role of Midwife Educator to her multi-faceted life with in the Maternity Unit. Alongside her role as Regional Antenatal HIV Co-ordinator, establishing the newborn neonatal screening programme and the hospital's young parent education classes, she will now work across the department to support the team with training and education services.

"Much of this work will involve facilitating training to ensure that the team are providing a quality service, and maintaining best practice within the Midwifery Council and DHB framework," she says. "There are regular requirements such as the Midwifery Standards Review, NZCOM technical skills workshops, maternal adult and neonatal resuscitation, and breastfeeding education to undertake.

"And there are some specific needs that our team have already identified. Next week we begin a programme of theatre orientation. As a team with many part-time staff, midwives may not be in theatre regularly and it is important that we maintain our exposure to this environment. I will be guiding and supporting the team with a variety of training and ensuring that it is accessible to all our midwives."

Michelle will be assisting the Maternity team in an audit of the local caesarean section rates. "We are keen to analyse all the factors that come into play for a woman undergoing a caesarian section. We can then work to understand how we can move towards a different outcome in some cases. There is a possibility that some women could benefit from additional antenatal support or there may be an aspect of education that our team can undergo to avoid caesarean in some cases. That's a really exciting prospect."

Thanks a bunch



I came in for a colonoscopy last month and want to say thank you for the friendly, courteous and efficient way I was treated and received. I could not have been treated better, including a check up phone call the next day. Thanks to everyone. I know you have had a hard row to hoe at times. Please tell the Minister.

Thanks to you all.

Tracey Adamson, CEO

New Facilities and Logistics Manager



Brian Freeman, Wairarapa DHB's new Manager of Facilities and Logistics is taking the move from the UK and a similar role in a 650 bed Buckinghamshire hospital in his stride. Brian started in the UK's National Health Service in 1981 as a medical engineer, managing biomedical equipment. During his career he has picked up an MBA, project management skills and many

years experience in 'soft' (portering, cleaning, catering) and 'hard' (buildings and maintenance) facilities management.

"Over time I have managed large teams at a strategic level. I have led specialist project teams and of course gained lots of front-line experience. Here at the Wairarapa DHB I expect to use all of those skills. I think the job will be very hands-on as the small team has a wide range of responsibilities," he says.

Brian made the move to Wairarapa 3 months ago with his wife who has joined the Imaging Department. and their two year old daughter.

Please mark this in your calendar:

CEO briefing

**Monday 20 September 2010
Room A, HR - all staff welcome**

12 noon or 12.30pm or 3.00pm

- The Year In Review
- Good To Great Programme
- Tihei Wairarapa (delivery of primary care)
- Sub- Regional collaboration

Question time.....

Come to any one of the three half hour sessions

Superb result for health targets this quarter

We might be the second smallest DHB in the country but we continue to outperform many of the much larger DHBs. In this fourth quarter we have achieved or exceeded all six health targets which compare New Zealand's 20 health boards across six categories each quarter.

We rank top in New Zealand for helping smokers to quit; top for better diabetes and cardiovascular services; top equal for shorter waits for radiation treatment; second for increasing immunisation rates; third for achieving shorter stays in emergency departments and fourth for improving access to elective surgery. The most dramatic improvement since the last quarter was a jump from 11th to 4th for improved access to elective surgery which now exceeds the national target by five percent giving Wairarapa an 'outstanding' rating.

Tracey Adamson, is quick to acknowledge the efforts of DHB staff and health providers. "These exceptional results are a celebration of the way our staff and other health providers have worked together to continually improve their performance and provide excellent service and care to patients," she says. "We are leading the country in many areas and we should all be very proud. Our staff along with primary health providers and the many other community organisations and

government agencies are making a difference to health in this region. We are committed to continually improve and exceed our own performance.

"We are one of two DHBs which achieved the 80% target for helping smokers to quit. Since 30 June 154 clinical staff have completed the "Ask the Elephant" training and hospital staff are actively supporting smokers to quit. Our immunisation results are outstanding. We have exceeded the target of 85% of all two year olds immunised and 85% of all Maori two year olds immunised. We actually achieved 94% and 95% respectively which is brilliant and shows an improvement of 2% over the last quarter. We achieved 108% of our elective surgery target and have increased our volume dramatically with 1962 people receiving non-urgent surgery. Wairarapa people receive very good access to elective surgery and our population is well serviced by Wairarapa Hospital and our neighbouring hospitals without excessive waiting times.

"We also manage emergency department waiting times well. The national target is 95% and we achieved 97.3%. That means all people who come into ED are admitted, transferred or discharged within six hours. These are all outstanding results and a credit to all our staff who work so hard," says Ms Adamson.

Target Area	National goal	Results for Wairarapa DHB in Quarter 4	Ranking against 20 DHBs	Comparison with last quarter
Shorter waits for cancer treatment	100%	100%	1st=	Same
Better help for smokers to quit	80%	87%	1st	Same
Better diabetes and cardiovascular disease (CVD) services	N/A	75%	1st	Dropped 1%
Increased immunisation	85%	94%	2nd	Improved by 2%
Shorter Stays in Emergency Departments	95%	97%	3rd	Dropped 1%
Improved access to elective surgery	100%	108%	4th	Improved by 5%
*The better diabetes and CVD services health target is an average of three target indicators and there is no overall national goal.				

New nursing grads

Despite a lower turnover of nurses, Wairarapa DHB is looking to employ a similar number of graduate nurses next year. "In the past, the DHB has employed 4-6 newly registered nurses in the hospital setting each year," says Director of Nursing Helen Pockall. "These nurses undertake a year long 'Nursing Entry to Practice' (NETP) programme, 50% of the training being funded by Health Workforce New Zealand."

There are 29 nurses sitting State Finals at the end of this year. The number graduating each year since the Wairarapa UCOL BN programme commenced in 2004 has ranged from 14 - 29.

In 2009 the DHB was able to offer 7 nurses initial placements on the NETP programme, and a further 8 joined the programme from the wider health sector, finding employment in aged and residential care facilities and general practice. This year the DHB has 5 new graduates on the programme and another one from general practice.

"New graduates do not have to take part in the NETP programme and some employers are not in a position to provide

the level of support this requires," says Helen.

Nationally, there is a trend of fewer vacancies for new graduates and there is a lower turnover of staff, but Helen says informal discussions with her colleagues around the country indicate that most DHBs are looking to take on a similar number of graduates as this year. "However, there is some talk that those DHBs who have routinely taken a mid-year intake may not be able to do so in 2011," she says.

A new initiative being explored is the possibility of all potential employers of new graduates in the Wairarapa banding together to simplify the recruitment process for both the graduates and the new employers. "The benefits of this approach are that graduates experience consistency in the process, and we can look at the possibility of a wider rotation through different spheres of activity."

The closing date for applications to the Nursing Entry to Practice programme is 10 September. Contact Dianne Mazey for more information.