

## Hospice Heralds New Era

Mrs Audrey Watchman used silver scissors to cut the ribbon, officially opening the newly completed hospice extension on 17 November. This action officially began a new, exciting phase in the history of Hospice Marlborough.

Rex Watchman, Audrey's late husband, was a great hospice supporter who fought hard to see a local service established, and then fought even harder to raise the money for it to develop.

"I believe Rex would take deep satisfaction in seeing the way our hospice is continuing to meet palliative care needs in the community," said Gerald Hope, Chairman of the Marlborough Hospice Trust. "It's such a pleasure to have Audrey and Rex's family involved in this historic day."

Thanks to extensive support from the Canterbury Community Trust, Pub Charity, Lion Foundation, NZ Community Trust, Redwood Trust and the Marlborough Hospice Foundation, the extensions were made possible. The work cost around \$600,000 including landscaping and visitors have been impressed by the extent and quality of the work for that price.



*Audrey Watchman, with son Stuart and Blenheim Mayor Alistair Sowman.*

The architectural design, building and landscaping was completed by Smart Alliances, Haack Construction, Marlborough Lines, Visual Landscape Design, Nelmac, and TC Nichols in association with Crafar & Crouch. All of these worked hard to meet deadlines and shared a keen interest creating a quality facility for the people of Marlborough.

"So many people have contributed to this project, that it is impossible to name everyone," said Gerald Hope. "The new development is a testament to the community spirit of the region. We sincerely thank every person who has supported and worked on this project and particularly the Neal, Day, Noble and McFarlane families who made significant personal contributions."



*Commissioner Don Bell addresses the audience, with The Blenheim Salvation Army band behind him.*

## Manager's Update



October saw the completion of the Hospice Marlborough building extension programme which had been underway since early April. The new extension includes dedicated space for our community palliative care team, two extra in-patient beds, a family area and a quiet room.

One of the beds has been dedicated to 'planned respite care' providing the opportunity for family members to have a well earned break from their caring role. The other bed is to be used for longer term complex patients, often younger, who are not able to be managed at home or suitable to be managed in a continuing care facility.

Having the quiet room provides an area for patients, their family and friends as well as staff for quiet reflection. However, while bricks and mortar are important it is the staff and volunteers who make Hospice Marlborough so special. We frequently receive feedback from family and friends that with hospice support their loved one's journey has been one of compassion and dignity.

Hospice is a philosophy around how to care for people who have a life limiting illness. Our care ensures that they and their families are cared for with the utmost professional skill, compassion and respect and can get on with living every moment.

To all our supporters we do value your loyalty, and whilst it has been said before, it is important for us to know that you are there, working alongside us in the provision of specialist palliative care services for the Marlborough region.

May peace and blessings be with you at Christmas and the whole year through.

Jenny Black  
*Hospice Manager*

*The Salvation Army is the preferred service provider to Hospice Marlborough*



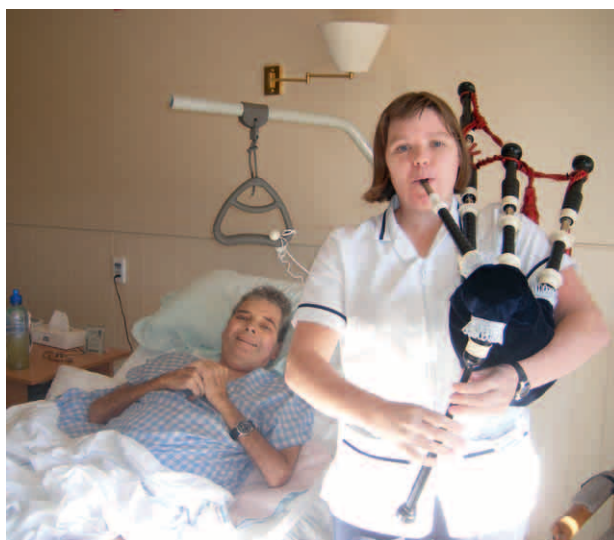
## Open Day Extra

Groups closely involved in hospice as well as the general public were invited to attend an additional 'open day' on Sunday 22 November.

"There was a high level of interest in the new facility," noted Kate Horrey, Executive Officer – Promotions, "but there was no way we could accommodate every one at the official opening ceremony. So we decided to invite everyone to a special open day on the weekend and show off our new and improved facilities. People often feel nervous about visiting a hospice for the first time and this was a great way to introduce them to the service and its holistic philosophy on a relaxed and happy occasion."

On behalf of our family, we wish to express our heartfelt thanks to the wonderful, fun loving team at Hospice Marlborough. Words cannot describe the excellent care and attention we all received. You became our extended family when Bill was 'in residence' for the last eight weeks of his life. I know this seems a long time and something that hasn't happened before. We got to know each other well and feel we were very lucky, as usually 'families' only get to know the staff who are on when they are there. We got to know everyone! Thank you so very much for looking after us all, for your patience, loving caring environment enabling Bill to live out his remaining time with dignity. You have a wonderful facility and personnel. Again thank you all so very much.

*Pam Francis and family*



*Student nurse Rachel Shaw delighted Bill with her playing.*

**"You matter because you are you, and you matter to the last moment of your life."**

— Dame Cicely Saunders OM (1918 – 2005)

# Take Time to Remember this Christmas

Throughout December people gather to celebrate Christmas and enjoy the company of workmates, club members, friends and family. Sometimes it's also a time when our thoughts go to those who are far away or absent.

This Christmas your family, friends or social group may like to participate in the Hospice Time to Remember campaign. It raises essential money for Hospice Marlborough's services and it also provides a good reason to take time to remember just how special life is. Time to Remember is championed by Hospice Ambassador Jo Seagar who has provided simple, delicious recipes to inspire and delight.

## It's a gift that keeps on giving

Time to Remember isn't just for Christmas. In everyone's life there are special times when people meet for fun and celebration. Your special time might coincide with a significant birthday or anniversary, a house warming, a family reunion or graduation during the coming year. Alternatively you may wish to plan a special event around Valentine's Day, Easter, Hospice Appeal Week in May or even a mid winter celebration. Other people just decide that this week's work drinks or the next summer BBQ will be their official 'Time to Remember'.

*Arrangements don't need to be complicated and can be adapted to suit your needs. Simply choose a date, tell your friends and at the end of the event ask them to make a donation to Hospice Marlborough. Fun and simple, it's an informal way of sharing the good news about hospice and raising money to help.*

In turn, Hospice Marlborough can help by providing Jo Seagar's best recipes, invitation cards and donation envelopes as required. Please contact Kate at hospice for more details, [promotions@marlboroughhospice.org.nz](mailto:promotions@marlboroughhospice.org.nz)



## Holiday for Hospice

Do you love to cook, enjoy a good wine and appreciate a great holiday with like minded travelers? Then House of Travel has the perfect recipe for you - join Jo Seagar in Umbria for her Italian Cook school. The trip includes lessons from an Italian cook, shopping, vineyard tours, cheese making demonstrations, opera and picnics in the hills. Accommodation is in an exquisite villa in the village of Eggi (Umbria).

A donation to Hospice Marlborough (\$200 per person) is included in the

tour cost. Departures are in September 2010. Contact Pam Young, Blenheim House of Travel – email: [pyoung@hot.co.nz](mailto:pyoung@hot.co.nz), or phone (03) 578 0280 for more details.



*Jo Seagar and Italian friends with black truffles.*



## A Treat to Remember

Eric Johnston pulled up his net of whitebait and immediately thought of hospice. Together with daughter Sandra Dickinson they turned the catch into a great platter of whitebait fritters.

Duty nurses Trish Rowe and Chrissie Montgomery-Everett took a moment out of their schedule to admire (and sample) the magnificent results.

# Strawberry Madness

The first Hospice Marlborough Strawberry Festival held on 5 November, was a huge success. People embraced the idea and treated themselves to over 1,000 plates of fresh strawberries and ice-cream. Live music from Ukeo, Brian McNamara, local jazz students and the Sounds Barber Shop Chorus floated out across the market place. More than \$5,000 has been raised and enormous thanks go to all our volunteers, supporters and sponsors.

Would you like to join the Strawberry Magic next year? Contact Kate at the hospice with your ideas and suggestions – [promotions@marlboroughhospice.org.nz](mailto:promotions@marlboroughhospice.org.nz)

Other notable recent fundraising events include Craigs Investment Partners / Hospice Golf Tournament (\$5,000), Sculpture in the Garden (\$7,000), Songs for Life – Blenheim Musical Theatre (\$1,000), Flora Fest (\$1,000), Farmers' 100th birthday

celebrations (\$16,000), and the Queen Charlotte Classic Race. Thank you to everyone involved in these and other events designed to support hospice.



Staff from Craig's Investment Partners volunteer at the Strawberry Festival.

## *Strawberry Festival Major Sponsors:—*

McKendry Motors  
Pak n Sav / New World  
Marlborough Express  
Ken Ham Music Centre  
Marlborough Produce Freighters  
The Radio Network  
Red Top Bins

## *Corporate and Community Volunteers:—*

National Bank  
Mark Stevenson Real Estate  
Blenheim Lions  
House of Travel  
Craigs Investment Partners  
Friends of Hospice  
Hospice volunteers

## We want the shirt off your back . . .

The Hospice Shop needs your shirt – if you have finished with it. Six days a week, the shop takes in donations of quality, clean second hand clothing, bric-a-brac and other goods and turns them into much needed income for the hospice. As Marlene Weatherall, Shop Manager, likes to remind customers “the money you spend today in this shop will be in the hospice bank account tonight”.

Think of the Hospice Shop when you are clearing out the cupboards before or after Christmas. It's a great way to recycle your treasures - giving other people pleasure while supporting Hospice Marlborough.

## . . . and then we can sell you another!

The Hospice Shop has a wide range of interesting, unique clothes of good quality and taste. A loyal team of volunteers keep the stock fresh and attractively displayed. It's the ultimate shopping expedition because the items change daily and you never know what treasures you will find. “Customers come in looking for a specific item and leave with something completely different and a big smile,” says Marlene with satisfaction. “If you are looking for something that little bit special for

a Christmas gift, come and explore our own hospice treasure-trove”.

**The Hospice Shop,  
Redwood Village,  
Mon – Friday, 10 – 4.30 pm  
Saturday 9.30 – 12.30 pm**

## COMING UP

Tony, Coral, Robin and the Marlborough Repertory Society Presents - *Accentuate the Positive*.

Saturday, 5 December 7.30 pm and Sunday, 6 December 2 pm.

Tickets available from Top Town Cinemas and door sales of \$15 (\$2 from each to Hospice Marlborough).