



## Volunteer Newsletter – 27 June 2022

Kia ora to our Volunteers and Welcome to our new volunteers who have joined us this month.

A special thank you to Penita Davies who is joining us on the Committee to support us with Pasifica and Maori referrals, and our mahi generally.

It's been a very uncertain time in the field of volunteering and social care. And this is a time of challenges in all social care providers, including ourselves, as COVID continues to pose challenges visiting facilities. While we seem to be emerging from this COVID phase, we are still dealing with our very vulnerable community, and I expect it will be several months before we can really begin to relax (and that's being hopeful!).

Many of us have been struggling to stay connected. Our committee have moved online using Zoom and this works surprisingly well.

Writing of connecting via Zoom, on July 5<sup>th</sup> our Welfare Guardian teams from around Aotearoa/New Zealand are planning to have a national gathering via Zoom. Our committee will be joining in and we will keep you posted from what comes of this meeting.

We have recently reached out for some volunteers via the DHB Intranet as we had 3 referrals needing to be matched in Hamilton, and our Hamilton pool needed expanding again. This advert generated a lot of interest. We are very grateful for all who have joined us and we have a very wonderful skill range amongst our volunteers. Janet and I have spent some time with our new volunteers over the past month and one is already matched and moving towards the next step of Court Application.

Currently we have 2 active referrals, one in Radius Kensington and another in Roselea. We expect over the next 6 weeks to have up to 8 more from Eastcare and one more likely from Radius Kensington. So, by the end of the year, our numbers are likely to have quadrupled in active Welfare Guardianship Orders appointed through the Courts

As well you might remember from our last newsletter, we had spoken about providing ongoing support to our volunteers and how this might happen. We are having a gathering together for all our Welfare Guardians on Saturday July 30<sup>th</sup> from 10:00-12:00. We have lost access to the Celebrating Age venue which we used previously as the building had become uninhabitable. Instead, we have a connection with the Charlemont Hub for seniors via our Trustee Jeni Hawker, which gives us access to a meeting room at the Central Baptist Church, 33 Charlemont St., Whitiara, where we are able to have our gathering.

# Waikato Welfare Guardianship Trust



To find us, drive to the very end of Charlemont Street and turn left. Drive down beside the building towards Ulster St. There is parking there and the entrance door will be marked. If you get lost, phone Cate on [022 033 1161](tel:0220331161) or Janet on [021 030 6797](tel:0210306797)

We will provide some snacks and tea and coffee.

There will be a gluten free option but for any other dietary morning tea requirements, do let us know. We hope you can all come to this gathering.

## New Banner



Many thanks to Safety Genius for donating and printing the banner to be used at functions to promote the Waikato Welfare Guardianship Trust.

## Resource File

We have added a document to the resource file entitled **“Enabling People with Dementia: Understanding and Implementing Person-Centred Care** by Pat Hobson.

The main focus of the book is to explore dementia from a person-centred perspective. It aims to increase understanding of how simple everyday tasks we take for granted can be a challenge for people with dementia.

The book examines the main theory relating to dementia care, explores the different types of dementia and the issues relating to person-centred communication that help to create the right environment to enable and promote meaningful activities for people with



dementia. It emphasises the importance of seeing the world from the perspective of the person with dementia.

The key message is that despite the disability, the person remains unique, and that uniqueness should be fostered and promoted.

A copy of the book is under Resources on our website.

## Advanced Care Planning

As before, we have copies available of “My Advance Care Plan & Guide” published by the Health Quality and Safety Commission.



If any of you would like a copy to use as a guide with your clients (or for yourself) please contact:

Janet Ball | m 021 030 6797 | e [janet.ball@xtra.co.nz](mailto:janet.ball@xtra.co.nz)

## Education

If you are interested, click on the links below to see more about these massive open online courses (MOOC) offered by the Wicking Dementia Institute, of the University of Tasmania. While the Understanding Dementia course, listed below, has a start date of 5 July, I believe you can still sign up for it, if you are interested.



## Understanding Dementia

This is a course about dementia looking at a broad range of topics including, basic brain anatomy, pathology, dementia research, risk factors, symptoms, diagnosis, medical management, living with dementia, progression and staging, palliation, behaviours...

- Independent
- 3 hours a week, 7 weeks long
- 5 July 2022
- Free Online Course

## Understanding Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

Understanding Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) is a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC), offering university-quality education about TBI covering the spectrum from mild concussion through to severe injury. Traumatic brain injury is often described as a silent...

- Independent
- 2 hours a week, 5 weeks long
- 22 August 2022
- Free Online Course

## **Meetings Coming Up:**

### **National Meeting of Welfare Guardianship Trusts**

A meeting of the 5 Welfare Guardianship Trusts in New Zealand (Otago, Christchurch, Wellington, Waikato and Whanganui) will be held via Zoom on 5 July at 3:00pm. This is the first national meeting and we will report back on the outcomes.

**Volunteer Gathering Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> July, 10am -12midday, Central Baptist Church, 33 Charlemont St. ( Please try and attend this one if you can)**

### **Next Committee Meeting**

We are a small committee which meets on the last Monday of each month. As a result of COVID, we have been meeting online via Zoom. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, 25 July at 6:30 pm.

Please come forward if you want to attend the committee meetings - we would love to have you on board.