

## Crafting For a Cause: Gifting to those in need

*Rose has always used her love of crafting to support charities, and now she is creating beautiful notebooks and bookmarks for people under the care of Hospice West Auckland.*



Called 'Diamond Art', she brings stunning, intricate designs to life with 'diamond dots', and donates them to Hospice as a unique gift set of notebook, bookmark and pen. Her aim is to bring some light and happiness to people when they need it the most. "I hope it brightens their day and cheers them up a little bit."

Like so many of us, Rose has her own Hospice story. Last year her beloved husband David was diagnosed with a rare and aggressive form of bladder cancer. It was the start of a devastating journey involving multiple surgeries, chemotherapy, and a myriad of complications that wreaked havoc on his health. "We were given a sheet of all of the possible complications that could result from the surgery, and David developed every single one of them, plus a few more," Rose says. Eventually running out of treatment options that would provide David with quality of life, he was released home under the care of Hospice West Auckland.

**"Hospice were really good. They could see I was stressed and exhausted, and they helped me so much."**

"Hospice were really good. They could see I was stressed and exhausted, and they helped me so much," says Rose. "I rang them through the night several times and they were so good. He wanted to be at home, and they made that possible."

As she tries to come to terms with losing her husband of 20 years, and the heartrending events surrounding his illness, Rose is using her crafting skills help others. "I do find making the notebooks and bookmarks very therapeutic, I get a lot of satisfaction out of it. It's helping me and keeps me going," she explains. "I'll sit down to do some art and two hours later I'm still there - it's quite addictive!" And while 'good days' are still elusive, Rose finds that she is having more 'better days' than she was previously, helped in part by Hospice's counselling service. "I'm just so thankful that Hospice are there. I'm just starting to be able to look at photos now," says Rose. "It's hard because David looks so healthy in them. That's how I want to remember him." She hopes that people might use the beautiful notebooks she donates to record precious thoughts and memories in them, and that they will bring a little light into dark days.



## In the past year, Hospice West Auckland has:



Cared for  
**735**  
 patients



Provided  
**580**  
 patients and  
 whānau with  
 holistic support



Made  
**26,118**  
 contacts with  
 patients



Volunteered  
**22,000**  
 hours



Driven  
**197,468**  
 kilometres



Delivered  
**70**  
 education and  
 training sessions

# Introducing Hospice West Auckland's New Leaders



## Dean Kelly – Chief Executive Officer

What an incredible six months it's been since I joined Hospice West Auckland as CEO!

Coming into the role, I bring extensive experience in the healthcare sector, including six years as Chief Executive for Reconnect Family Services Trust, and spearheading the health service expansion for Ngati Whātua Orakei. I am excited to apply this experience to provide vision and leadership to guide Hospice West Auckland into its next chapter. I believe that with strong strategy, innovation, advocacy and collaboration, the future of Hospice and its ability to continue providing a high standard of free specialist palliative care to a growing population is bright.

During these past months, I have had the privilege of getting to know the team who are so dedicated to our patients, their whānau, and the West Auckland community. I have learned how all areas of our organisation work collaboratively and passionately to contribute to our ability to provide a truly patient-centred approach. The mahi they demonstrate each and every day is inspiring, and I am proud to be a part of this wonderful team.

I am sincerely grateful to all of our loyal supporters – we couldn't manage without you! And to those of you who have been touched personally by Hospice care, know that you are forever part of our whānau and our doors will always be open to you.

## Peter Larmer – Board Chair

After being a supporter of Hospice West Auckland for almost a decade and two years as a trustee on the Board, I am now honoured to take on the position of Board Chair.

My experience includes being a qualified physiotherapist and many years in the tertiary education sector. I have held several governance roles, including Chair of Arthritis New Zealand and Co-Chair of the Ministry of Health Mobility Action Programme.

The Board's role is to provide the overarching governance, ensuring a unified mission, values and direction are embraced throughout the organisation. Hospice West Auckland has an exemplary reputation in the community, and the Board and I are dedicated to maintaining this. We will continue to provide the strategic guidance necessary to future-proof our organisation, and ultimately ensure that West Aucklanders facing end of life, and their whānau, have access to free specialist palliative care.

Having lived in West Auckland for most of my life, I am strongly committed to this vibrant, diverse and beautiful community I'm lucky to call home.

## Hospice's Korowai Care Programme

**A**t Hospice West Auckland we strive to meet our patients' care preferences and the majority of our patients wish to be supported to remain at home. Because at times, for some patients, this requires enhanced levels of care, we have developed a new programme called Korowai Care. This short-term programme is designed to deliver the extended care required to support the patient and whānau at home. This care may avoid or delay a hospital or hospice in-patient unit admission.

The Hospice specialist palliative care team take over care of the patient from their GP for a period of seven to ten days and provide intensive symptom management and end-of-life care. In addition to Hospice's everyday services, patients under Korowai Care can access enhanced care at



home with frequent assessment and visits from a team of doctors, nurses, healthcare assistants and other specialist palliative care practitioners.

This directly supports a person's ability to choose their preferred place of care, while ensuring optimal support is provided to them and their carers.

Upon discharge from Korowai Care, patients and their whānau continue to have ongoing access to core Hospice services, including phone access to a palliative clinical nurse specialist 24 hours a day for assessment and advice.

## Three Generations of Giving Back to Hospice

*Angie is one of three generations who have volunteered for Hospice West Auckland.*

Her mum was a long-term Patient and Family volunteer, and her son has volunteered at a Hospice Op Shop as part of his Duke of Edinburgh Award duties. Having volunteered every week at the local Op Shop for the past three years, Angie has now extended her volunteering role to End-of-Life Care, a specialised role providing support to patients and families in the comforting environment of their own homes during the last days or weeks of life.

Heartbreakingly, Angie and her family were impacted by Hospice when her mum was diagnosed with lung cancer and passed away just three short months later. "It was comforting to know there was somebody there outside of GP hours. The nurses were so caring, it was lovely having them come into your home - it meant so much. And the fact that the services are free is just amazing." Having done a variety of volunteer work throughout her life, joining the Hospice team seemed



like the natural next step: "It felt like something quite special to me because I could give back," she says.

To Angie, donating her time as an End-of-Life carer is incredibly special, and she instinctively adapts to each visit to provide support in whichever way it is needed. "It's about being there so they don't feel alone, and helping in small, meaningful ways," she explains. "To me, that time is so precious. It's a very humbling experience and hugely rewarding for me."

**"It's about being there so they don't feel alone, and helping in small, meaningful ways."**

Angie loves her regular shift at the Op Shop too. As a huge fan of fashion, she looks forward to sorting through the donated clothes, and enjoys chatting with people from the local and wider community, who often share their experiences with her. "Sometimes it does bring me to tears when I hear people's stories."

Hospice West Auckland has over 200 active volunteers contributing their time and skills in many different ways. For Angie, it's a rewarding and empowering way to spend her time for a cause so close to her heart. "It's usually a personal experience that drives you in the direction you're meant to go, and that's definitely true for so many Hospice volunteers. One of the best things about donating your time – giving – is that it comes back. You get it back in another form. And Hospice fills up my cup."



## Fundraising Heroes

*This year six amazing people signed up to run the 2023 Barfoot & Thompson Auckland Marathon and fundraise for Hospice West Auckland.*

A combination of staff members and Hospice supporters, they each committed not just to train for many, many weeks to complete the half (21km) or full (42km) marathon, but also went to big efforts to hit their fundraising targets. Together they raised over \$8,000 for Hospice and are true fundraising heroes!

**If you're interested in running for a cause, Southern Cross Round the Bays 2024 is just around the corner. Entries are open now and you can make it count by fundraising for Hospice West Auckland – and we'll help you on your fundraising journey.**

## New Kumeu Hospice Op Shop

A new Kumeu shop is joining the "Best Op Shops in the West" as our 7th shop! Located in the heart of Kumeu at 46 Main Road and targeted to be open late November, the shop has great parking and easy access for donation drop offs. In fact, the convenient 'drive up and drop off' donation area makes donating your preloved goods as quick and easy as possible. For shoppers, you'll discover all of your regular favourites, from clothing, bric-a-brac, toys, books and antiques to vintage items and furniture. Because our retail stock turns over quickly there will constantly be new treasures to discover at a fraction of their original cost.



# Events



## Christmas Remembrance Service

Hospice West Auckland invites you to our Christmas Remembrance.

This is a special moment in time to remember your loved one. We will share reflections, a small ritual, music and song, give thanks, and acknowledge those who are no longer with us.

**Tuesday 12th December 2023**  
**6.00pm – 7.00pm**

Hospice House, 52 Beach Road,  
Te Atatū Peninsula

Please contact us on (09) 870 4612 to confirm your attendance.

All welcome.



## Trees of Remembrance

Trees of Remembrance will be coming to your local community hotspots during the month of December. Keep an eye out for the friendly Hospice Volunteers who will invite you to make a donation and add a heartfelt message of remembrance to the tree. Every donation, big or small, helps us to provide free, specialist end-of-life care to our West Auckland community.

**Visit [hwa.org.nz/events](http://hwa.org.nz/events) to find your local tree.**

If you would like to help us by gifting just two hours of your time to collect donations at one of our locations, please contact us on (09) 834 9752.



## Southern Cross Round the Bays 2024

**Save the date:**  
**Sunday 3rd March 2024**

Early bird entries are now open for Southern Cross Round the Bays 2024. Join the Hospice West Auckland team to run, jog, walk or dance for a great cause! You'll smash your fitness goals and experience an unforgettable day as you make your way along the beautiful (and flat!) coastline, passing gorgeous beaches from Auckland City to St Heliers Bay.

Sign up here:



## Key Supporters

Thank you to our key sponsors for their commitment and outstanding support.



BNI NSpire | BNI Parnell | BNI Waitakere | Mount Shop Ltd | Maurice Paykel Charitable Trust

Louisa & Patrick Emmett Murphy Foundation | Charles Rupert Stead Trust | Ara Lodge No 348 I.C. Charitable Trust

## Ways to Donate

Thank you for helping us continue to provide specialist palliative care free of charge to those in need.



Donations of \$5 and over will be receipted and are eligible for a tax credit.



Phone us on (09) 834 9752 to make a donation over the phone, or to hear more options for donating in person



Visit our website at [hwa.org.nz/support-us/donate](http://hwa.org.nz/support-us/donate) to make a donation online, or scan the QR code to link directly to our online donation page



Via internet banking:  
ASB Bank – Hospice West Auckland  
12-3039-0813192-04 Ref: DM1223



[hwa.org.nz](http://hwa.org.nz)