

*Hospice  
cares for  
people in  
any place  
they call  
home*

**Hospice  
Awareness  
Week**

**15 - 21  
May 2023**



[www.hospicetairawhiti.org.nz](http://www.hospicetairawhiti.org.nz)

Te Kahu Pairuri  
o Te Tairāwhiti  
**hospice**  
Tairāwhiti



# From the general manager's desk

### How much do you know about hospice services in your local community?

A recent nationwide public perceptions survey conducted by Hospice New Zealand showed that while 90% of those surveyed viewed hospice as an essential part of medical services, only 35% of people could name their local hospice.

Hospice Awareness Week is a great opportunity to learn more about the services Hospice Tairāwhiti provide and clear up some of the misconceptions people have about hospice care.

Two common misconceptions are that hospice services are only for cancer patients and cannot be accessed until the very end of life. Robbie Sherriff can tell you otherwise. Diagnosed with motor neurone disease, Robbie shares his story in this publication, and talks about the benefits of having hospice involved early on.

The family of the late Tony Pickett have also kindly shared their experience with Hospice, dispelling the myth that hospice care is just about pain control. They were particularly appreciative of the wrap around care, the biography service, and our after-hours advice line. Our sincere thanks to Robbie, Glenda and Fletcher for sharing their personal stories.

Many of the services we offer at Hospice are made possible due to the generosity of the community,



Barbara Grout - general manager Photo supplied

many of whom donate, give their time and expertise, or support our shop and fundraising events. We couldn't do this mahi without your past, present, and future support and we thank you for this.

Please take the time to learn more by reading this publication and support us however and whenever you can. The Pop-up Café running this week opposite the Hospice Shop is a great place to start.

## A gift that keeps on giving

### Leaving a legacy is something that can be life-changing and meaningful beyond your lifetime.

Bequests are a legacy that can support the people and causes you care about after you're gone. Regardless of how big or small, your bequest will be a welcome gift to those who receive it.

At Hospice Tairāwhiti we live our philosophy by providing care for both patients and whānau. This is possible by the support Hospice receives from our community. There are many ways to support Hospice Tairāwhiti and bequests are one way.

The good news is that including Hospice Tairāwhiti in your will is just as easy as providing for your loved ones. And it can be as much, or as little, as you want; it can be a one-off gift or an enduring one.

You may choose to leave a bequest directly to Hospice Tairāwhiti or through our special interest endowment fund with Sunrise Foundation.

Leaving a bequest directly to Hospice Tairāwhiti gives you the opportunity to instruct the organisation on how you will like this money used. If no instructions are given, where possible bequests are invested to earn interest, however Hospice has the freedom to use the capital as and when required.

By leaving a bequest through Sunrise your capital contribution will be invested, protected, and grown each year in line with inflation. The surplus income will be granted back to Hospice Tairāwhiti every year, meaning your bequest will keep supporting them forever.

If you'd like to find out more about leaving something that will live on after you, contact your lawyer or you can contribute to Hospice Tairāwhiti Special Interest Endowment Fund through Sunrise Foundation: [www.sunrisefoundation.org.nz/assets/Special-Interest-Funds/SI-Posters-new-format/TSF-Hospice-Format-2017-Web.pdf](http://www.sunrisefoundation.org.nz/assets/Special-Interest-Funds/SI-Posters-new-format/TSF-Hospice-Format-2017-Web.pdf)

## Who's who at Hospice Tairāwhiti

### Board of Trustees:

Jane Williams (chair), David Ure (deputy chair), Glenda Stokes, Tina Swann, Daryl Keast, Nigel Campbell

### General Manager:

Barbara Grout

### Hospice Doctors:

Dr Anna Meuli (medical lead), Dr Laura Gilding, Dr Sarah Callaghan, Dr Robin Briant

### Clinical Nurse Specialist (Hospital Liaison):

Joy Cairns

### Clinical Nurse Specialist (Aged Residential Care Liaison):

Jayda Taiepa

### Community Hospice Nurses:

Elke Saeys (team leader), Jude Francis, Julie Abrahams, Summer Battisti, Clare Aitcheson

### Family Support Coordinator:

Rochelle Walker

### Administration:

Nikki Archdale, Tina Rangihuna

### Education Coordinator:

Clarice Alderdice

### Volunteer Coordinator:

Jane Kibble

### Marketing & Fundraising Coordinator:

Kj Danielle

### Hospice Shop Manager:

Brenda Kinder

### Assistant Shop Managers:

Carolyn Grandiek, Huriana Kereru

*Hospice Tairāwhiti is supported by over 160 volunteers*

## Contribution toward pay disparity – a band aid, not a solution

### Hospice Tairāwhiti may be a better position to recruit and retain staff thanks to a funding boost, but the challenges still remain for the free-to-use organisation.

On 1 April, Hospice received extra money as the Government attempts to close the pay gap between nurses in primary and community roles, and Te Whatu Ora employed nurses.

The funding was originally announced by Minister Little last year as 'pay parity for all health workers in

primary and community care' but is now described by Te Whatu Ora as a 'contribution towards pay disparity to address the pay gap' and is for nursing staff only. Providers receiving this funding are expected to increase wages to at least 95% of Te Whatu Ora rates.

Hospice Tairāwhiti general manager Barbara Grout says while it will put the organisation in a better position for recruiting and retaining staff, people will go where the money is. "These are tough economic times and the money historically hasn't been in

hospice," she says. "This money won't address the pay disparity for other hospice staff including allied health, family support or administration staff... nor will it address ongoing underfunding.

This additional funding will have absolutely no effect on our bottom line. It is basically in and out. Hospice Tairāwhiti are faced with raising \$750,000 this year through grants, fundraising and donations in order to provide current services free of charge and need the community's support to do this."



# Kind, generous man lived life to the full

Tony Pickett fitted more into his life than most. Over many decades, the former detective, painter and decorator taught hundreds of youngsters to swim. He was a national swimming champ himself and untouchable in both the 50 and 100 yard freestyle distances, as they were known in the 1950s and 1960s. He was also a national title holder too for Waikanae Surf Life Saving Club in the teams' event, and won silver in the surf race.



Tony at his 21st with his mother Belle. Photo supplied

He was hugely generous with his time and talent, so it was no surprise that when in January 2022 he was diagnosed with squamous cell carcinoma, he wasn't ready to go. He had already dealt with chronic lymphocytic leukemia for 20-odd years, outliving the doctor's guesstimate of a decade.

It had been a tough run since he had a spiral hip fracture in November 2018. When the latest diagnosis was made, his family gathered around him, and Tony made the decision not to have any intervention. "It wouldn't have helped anyway," says his son Fletcher who helped care for him at home alongside Tony's partner of 18 years, Glenda Anderson.

Hospice Tairāwhiti was mentioned early on, and both Glenda and Fletcher said it was a huge comfort to have them alongside the likes of the District Nurses, who had been visiting for some time, right there to call on if needed.

About six months before Tony passed in October 2022 the family reached out to Hospice. "They were always there for advice, which was especially helpful around medication," said Fletcher.

Glenda also called them during the night when she needed some back up. "Tony was happy with the choice he made not to go away for treatment," she said. "It would have been difficult to be in Waikato



Tony, Gisborne's first professional swim coach, with some of his young charges at the McRae Baths, where he was also the custodian.

Photo supplied

for treatment, especially given he had not been mobile since that fracture in 2018."

Fletcher said his father's toughest battle was coming to grips with leaving Glenda, his children Todd, Kerry, himself and Toni, along with his grandchildren and step grandchildren.

"He had a good life and didn't want to go but those last few weeks he was more accepting," he said.

Tony's Hospice biography was done around four months before he passed. Dail Solvander came regularly over a month chatting to him and going through old photographs. "He really enjoyed that and looked forward to Dail's visits."

Glenda said the biography was a special thing to have for everyone to read and enjoy.

Coming to the fore in the words were his love of family and swimming. It is fitting his grandson Michael had recently claimed a New Zealand record for the 50m freestyle and qualified for the 2023 world champs in Japan. Another grandson Josh was just 400ths of a second off a gold at the championships in the 50m breaststroke to claim silver.

"We like to think both the boys got that little extra bit of a push from their Poppa," said Fletcher. "He would have been incredibly proud of them both and it is sad to think he won't see them take their swimming to the next level."

For Tony, missing out on a berth for the Rome Olympic Games was a huge disappointment.

He and his late wife Anne brought up their family in their beautifully restored villa which ironically used to belong to Glenda's family, the Bignells who lived there for more than 60 years.

Tony had walked in off the street when the family were cleaning it up to sell. In an odd twist, Tony died in the same room on the same day that Glenda's mother had been born, 97 years earlier.

Hospice had helped the Pickett family too when Anne became unwell and later died in 1999. "Dad so rated them with the help they gave," said Fletcher.

Glenda reiterated the sentiment too with the support they had received for Tony and the wider family. "Hospice was just always there and were so prompt if we did call on them. We really did receive wrap-around care from a very special team."

**Tauti mai ki te mahau o te aroha**

**Hospice Tairāwhiti**  
warmly invite you, your whānau  
and friends to join us in a

**Time of Remembrance**

**Date:** Thursday, 18 May

**Time:** 4pm

**Where:** Hospice Tairāwhiti


Please join us for light refreshments  
after the service.

**Please RSVP to:**


admin@hospicetairawhiti.org.nz  
or 06 869 0552

This occasion is open to the community,  
not only to those who have had an  
association with Hospice.



  
75 Customhouse Street  
P: 06 868 9510  
Hours: Mon-Fri 8am-6pm  
Sat & Sun 9am-2pm

  
578 Gladstone Rd  
P: 06 867 4672

  
Opp. Taruheru Cemetery  
Nelson Road  
P: 06 867 1800  
E: info@stonehaven.nz

  
Peel Street  
P: 06 868 8015

  
75 Customhouse Street  
P: 06 867 7411

  
145 Derby Street  
P: 06 869 0457  
www.turangahealth.co.nz

  
14 Rutene Road, Gisborne  
P: 06 868 9595  
admin@nzgsmedical.co.nz




*Dail Solvander*
*Photo by The Black Balloon*

## Everyone has a story

**As one of the small team who do biographies at Hospice Tairāwhiti, volunteer Dail Solvander is often privy to a journey into lives well lived and opportunities taken, and she adores it.**

Each bio can take between three to five one-hour visits with patients keen to wile away time reminiscing about days gone by. "The best part is just spending time with the patient," says Dail who has been involved with Hospice for around three years now.

"I have always admired the philosophy of Hospice . . . how they help people through death and dying, and not just the person, but also the family."

She works full time but is able to fit in her volunteer Hospice contribution easily. "I worked as a copy-writer for years, so helping with biographies really appealed to me."

Patients keen to be involved sign a document that ensures they have the final sign off of their biography. The sessions are recorded and then transcribed before being turned into a booklet complete with photos. The biography is also supplied as a digital copy for safe keeping.

"Their stories often have lovely little asides," says Dail. "It really is such a privilege. When people are

at the end of their lives they are incredibly honest. They have nothing to lose."

One of her favourite parts is looking through old photographs with patients. "It always brings back so many memories and we often have a lot of laughs."

So far, there have been none with regrets or sadness, rather celebrations of lives, loves and whānau. "There is so much trust. This service enables them to reflect on their lives and families and their part in their family, as well as the impact various events have had on them all."

Many are very open about what their family means to them, which Dail says is lovely for whānau to read later. "Some think their lives are boring, but it's seldom the case."

She finds the work incredibly rewarding. "It brings enjoyment and satisfaction and is a nice way to get out in the community and give back. It is a chance to sit down and listen to someone. They are the focus of the session."

Dail is also involved with the annual pop-up café. She loves the variety of people Hospice brings together whether they be volunteers, patients or those who work for the organisation.

"It is something quite special indeed."

## Invaluable team member a key link

**It's a real team effort between the hospital and Hospice Tairāwhiti to ensure patients are well cared for between the two organisations with seamless transitions throughout their journeys.**


*Joy Cairns*
*Photo by The Black Balloon*

Leading the drive is clinical nurse specialist Joy Cairns who works primarily in the medical ward at the hospital, and is often the first point of contact for Hospice patients. Her efforts don't go unnoticed.

Dr Alyssa Thompson is one who works closely with Joy. "Joy is our link to Hospice, ensuring communication between the hospital-based medical team and community hospice is clear and efficient. She assists in ensuring the appropriate care is given to patients and their whānau when they are at their most vulnerable point," says Alyssa.

Joy builds relationships with patients, whānau and staff, engendering trust and engagement. "We rely on her expertise to provide the best care for hospice patients, ensuring they are comfortable physically and cared for emotionally with the patient and whānau at the centre of treatment."

That includes reviewing pain medication to make sure it fits the patient's requirements or providing a path home or to a rest home as best meets the needs of each patient.

Alyssa says the whole medical team really appreciates Joy's efforts. "She is an invaluable team member for us and an amazing colleague."

For Joy, the job is very rewarding. "It is very humbling to be able to work with people at such a pivotal time in their lives, and the death of a loved one definitely lives on for those left behind," says Joy who has spent 12 of her 13 years nursing in palliative care. "The more we can make that (death of a loved one) a positive experience and the time a person has left as comfortable as possible, the better. I find that really rewarding."

Many people she works with have had no exposure to Hospice. "They've never needed to understand what Hospice actually does. They may know of it as an entity or a charity they have supported but not a lot more. Many see it as purely end of life and about dying but a lot of hospice work is about living and living the best you can in those last months or years of your life."

Joy meets new patients and introduces them to Hospice services. "Often a medical or surgical consultant will have had a conversation with a patient if medical interventions are no longer effective or their situation is changing, and will suggest that Hospice could be helpful.

"These may be people with chronic illness who have been managing ok at home but need help with a certain symptom, and that becomes a palliative care role."

Key too is ensuring a smooth transition from hospital to home or elsewhere when the time comes. "That really relies on the whole team – the doctors for scripting, occupational therapist for equipment, physios to assess mobility, a dietitian for nutrition needs and more," says Joy. "Most people don't want to be in hospital for the last months of their lives. I like to think Hospice's approach is a positive way they can get the input they need while


*Alyssa Thompson*
*Photo supplied*

they have to be there, and then return home better for it."

Many assume too that Hospice is only there for people with cancer but in reality the organisation helps people with all sorts of conditions.

"We really do rely on the great medical and nursing teams at the hospital. They see the changes and respond to symptoms arising. Hopefully we have planned ahead to have those medication and other needs in place to be able to respond."

Hospice's own community nursing team provides the cohesion between the teams of people involved, so while they are providing excellent palliative care advice, they are also coordinating things when personal care requirements increase or the patient is moving. "It is about recognising the needs for patients and being able to access the right people for that."

Hospice Tairāwhiti has 24-hour on-call nurse advice to ensure all those needs are met. "That is really invaluable to our patients."

Joy loves the autonomy of her role and that she works with "two awesome teams" between Hospice and the hospital. "Sometimes it can feel like a big responsibility being the primary palliative care presence in the hospital but I feel really lucky to have such supportive teams in the hospital and great advice from our hospice doctors."

# Hospice now part of Robbie's 'choir of angels'



Robbie Sherriff

Photo by The Black Balloon

**It wasn't that long ago that Robbie Sherriff learned that Hospice Tairāwhiti isn't just about helping at the end of a life.**

"I was surprised," says the 74-year-old. "I thought they only dealt with people at the end . . . like in the last month of their lives, but now I have realised what an incredible organisation they are. They've joined my choir of angels."

Robbie has motor neurone disease. When he was first diagnosed they wrapped a support team around him that included a physio and social worker, and he was asked if he wanted to be contacted by Hospice. "I thought it was a bit early and would be admitting I hadn't long to go."

But he talked to one of his healthcare workers and she encouraged him. That set in motion a very special relationship he now has across the organisation – from the nurses to the doctors,

the social worker and of course, the volunteers.

"After talking to them I understood that by being proactive, they would understand everything about me as I came through and I began to understand just what Hospice is."

Robbie has no family in Gisborne. He moved to the region after leaving an Auckland job and coming down for the Easter break with the lady who owned the boarding house he was staying in. "I stayed five weeks then went back to get my stuff and came home. I have no intention of leaving. I love the pace, the quiet, the friendliness, and that it can be a modern town in a relaxed way."

The outdoors has always been his thing. He was the gardener and handy-man at Albert Park and then spent 12 years at Gisborne Girls' High School – firstly as the gardener and then the groundsman.

But that all changed on July 7, 2021. "I thought I had a nerve thing going on," he says. "I was having trouble pulling little weeds out and then one morning I woke up and could hardly move. I had two operations to cut the carpal tunnel and they just didn't work. Then a neurologist from Wellington saw me and just said, 'sorry but you have motor neurone'."

He was told initially his life expectancy would be around two-and-a-half years, but later that became five, and he holds high the big Scottish lock Doddie Weir who lived with the disease for six years. Robbie has been taking a drug that seems to be retarding the progression of the disease.

He regularly sees members of the Hospice medical team as well as the counsellor and volunteers too.

He has completed a biography with Hospice volunteer Dail, and looks forward to his weekly catchups with (counsellor) Rochelle and volunteer Cynthia. "The biography was fun but it was hard to remember back 70-odd years," he says. "It was enjoyable to do that."

It was previous nurse Linda who helped him move to Kiri Te Kanawa Village in October.

Hospice has helped him navigate his way, and for that he is very grateful. "They help me get things done. It makes a big difference," says Robbie.

He now has an electric wheelchair and will soon be able to roam far and wide once he gets the green light.

His deterioration seems to come in spurts and he misses his school life where he used to take a group of Year 9 students and teach them all about growing things. When he left, he received a beautiful handmade card that made it very clear the difference he had made to their lives. "Your skills do not go unnoticed and your passion does not go unfelt," they wrote. "The school will miss you dearly. You have taught us patience, care, ingenuity and gentleness in the face of plant disasters."

Girls' High will be one of his first ports of call when he is out in his new wheelchair.

"As things get worse I will have to ask for more from Hospice. They do all sorts of things they don't need to but do it out of the goodness of their hearts. I do appreciate it," says Robbie. "I may have been reluctant at first, but now they are part of my choir of angels. I am so pleased about that."

the big picture

**219** people and their whānau received care and support from hospice

**50%** of people died at home

**25%** in aged residential care

**25%** in hospital

**6,373** visits made by staff and volunteers to people under our care and their whānau

**83%** of people were able to die in their place of choice

Hospice provided **69 HOURS** of professional education sessions with attendance numbers of **289**

**28%** of people referred had a non-cancer diagnosis, the most common being cardiovascular and respiratory conditions

**87%** of people cared for lived in the city and **13%** rurally

**474** after hours calls were responded to by Hospice nurses

Volunteers gave **14,883 hours** of their time

**38%** of people referred identified as Māori

*These figures are based on year ended 30 June 2022.*



# New build pinnacle for long-time supporter

**The official opening of the new Hospice Tairāwhiti building seemed the perfect time to step back for former chair David McLean after 39 years of involvement.**

He almost tumbled into Palliative Care, as it was known way back then. In 1982 it was a fledgling and very small organisation that had been established by Dr James Carstens. At the time, David was deputy chief executive at Cook Hospital where he was also the accountant. His predecessor on the board retired, and he was asked if he would step up.

“It was important to me because I knew what they did and the lack of funding,” he said. “There was nowhere enough funding to continue, and they needed a trust, and people in volunteer positions to fundraise for a service that was in continuing and increasing need.”

When the region’s hospital moved to its current site, David shifted with it as the chief executive, a role he held through until 1993 when he went into retail. However, he remained on the Hospice board.

“There was such a growing demand because it gave dignity and comfort to people in those end stages of life,” he says, tipping his hat to the drive and dedication of Dr Carstens.

Over the years he has been chair of Hospice Tairāwhiti a couple of times, and his involvement is something he holds dear to his heart. It is with plenty of pride that he sits in the new building, happy in the knowledge he stepped away at a time when the organisation had its much yearned for base, and a solid financial foundation for the future.



David McLean

Photo by The Black Balloon

“To get this was special. This building is the pinnacle for me really, it makes you think ‘my job is done’. Hospice desperately needed somewhere nice and adequate, with room for people to sit and talk, rather than be sharing desks and on top of each other.”

In the early days, Hospice was run out of the district nurses’ office, followed by another building that had been a site office while the new hospital was built. “That seemed a big leap forward at the time.” With his Lions cap on, David was involved in moving a garage next to the building which meant a space for storage.

The stability of the volunteers played such an important part of the organisation. The fundraising

for just the day-to-day running of Hospice is still tough, but there is plenty of effort going into ensuring a stable future for it thanks to a very generous population and some excellent events.

“The shop has helped with that too. I was against the shop in the beginning – the city had several charity shops and in my simple mind there was only so much stock you could get in and sell. Fortunately I was convinced to give it a try when we had a very generous offer of the facility. I had worried we would be stuck with the bills . . . but look at it now. Good operators and great volunteers have made it work, and work well.”

David felt Hospice was one organisation that the whole community would at some stage be touched by. “Hospice brings expertise to give people comfort – whether that be medication, wrap-around support, an ear to listen or to relieve family. So many do a marvellous job for our community. They are giving good advice and leading people in the right direction at a very tough time,” he said.

He was extremely proud to have been a part of it all. “I have been involved with heaps of different things, but this is right up there. The organisation is in a good place and in good hands. I have worked with some truly great people both within the service and on the board over the years. They have come from all walks of life and from a great cross-section that all contributed so well. It really is an honour to have been part of it all.”

Not one to sit on his hands for too long though, David was on the beach at Tokomaru Bay helping launch, load and unload boats for people affected by Cyclone Gabrielle. “You do what you do don’t you?”

## Around-the-clock support critical

**Hospice Tairāwhiti patients have 24/7 support from some of the best specialists in the land thanks to an affiliation with Waipuna Hospice in the Bay of Plenty.**

It’s a two-pronged approach, with support in both the education and clinical spaces. Medical lead Dr Anna Meuli says the clinical support is key. “If we have a patient with complex needs we have that expert advice available to ensure we are getting the best care for our patients even though we aren’t a main centre with full-time specialists,” she says. “The majority of patients’ needs can be really well catered for by the local team.”

The Hospice Tairāwhiti doctors come mostly from a GP background and both they and the nurses have done post graduate training in palliative care.

“We are a very strongly nurse-led service because they are such an integral part of our relationships with patients in getting to know them and attending their needs in a very holistic model.”

Anna says much of what the doctors do is based on anticipatory care which is driven by the 24/7 availability of the nursing team.

Education coordinator Clarice Alderdice organises seminars and conferences for healthcare providers in Tairāwhiti, using resources from Waipuna Hospice. Sometimes that includes talks at Grand Rounds, a weekly lunch-time session for doctors at the hospital.

Clarice meets regularly with her counterparts in the Hospice NZ Te Manawa Taki Region Nurse Educator Group, to share resources, information and talk about current challenges.

“Our education sessions are all free to participants, which is amazing,” she says. “The support we receive from the Waipuna Hospice is an important and critical part of the services we offer our Hospice Tairāwhiti patients.”



Anna Meuli and Clarice Alderdice

Photo supplied

**Beetham**  
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www.beethamvillage.co.nz

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## Having fun helping others



The blokes - Laurie Gooch, Graham Hurne, Peter McFadyen and Mike Zame.

Photo by The Black Balloon

### The blokes' club at Hospice Tairāwhiti may be small, but they'd be the first to tell you it is mighty... in their own very understated way.

Mike Zame, Peter McFadyen, Graham Hurne, Laurie Gooch and Antony Barnby fly the flag high when it comes to helping out the local organisation. Mike and Peter take care of the electrical testing and tagging for the Hospice Shop, with the latter also able to do repairs. Graham takes care of picking up donations, getting rid of the shop's sometimes rather large rubbish collection, while Laurie can be found chatting to patients and their whānau, and helping out around the Hospice building.

While their tasks are varied, their reasoning for helping is an all too similar story. For this clutch, it's all about the camaraderie and just being able to contribute to an organisation that does so much for others.

Peter was brought into the fold by long time Hospice volunteer Marilyn Baty who had him testing and tagging but then he took a bit of a break until his accounts lady suggested in 2019 Hospice needed a hand again.

"It's a good thing to do," says Peter who still works full time within his business McFadyen Electrical. He gives a morning a week to Hospice and says the ladies who work the shop on a Saturday are a pretty good bunch. "They certainly give me heaps! It's the people who make this really."

Mike used to be involved with Hospice through the company he worked for picking it back up when he retired in 2021. He usually helps out on a Friday morning but also calls in during the week as well. "It's a friendly atmosphere and I enjoy that camaraderie at the shop," he says.

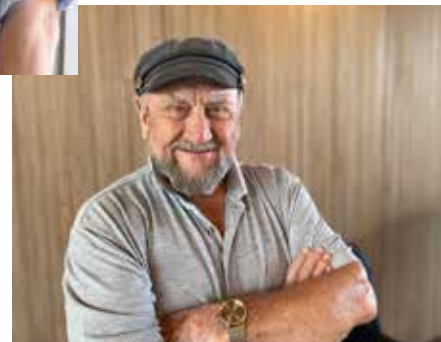
Graham got the call-up through a mate. "He used to do all the pick-ups and would call me to give him a hand when he needed it," says Graham. When his mate moved south, there was only one thing to do. "I had just bought a brand new ute so was the obvious choice," he says. "It's good being out and about and meeting a lot of people."

Graham spent his working life in the automotive trade and there is never a shortage of people to chat about that with him. "I get to someone's place

and we just get chatting. A five minute job turns into a 30-minute chat. "I am happy to lend an ear."

His work with Hospice is following in the footsteps of his dad who supported what used to be Palliative Care some 38-plus years ago.

Laurie, who is Mike's brother-in-law, is the 'new kid' on the block having been brought in by his wife Cheryl just six months ago. "I was told they needed some gardens done and that was me," he says. He was motor trade sales manager at Ford for 28 years before retiring. "I go out and visit patients for a chat too. I do enjoy it."



Antony Barnby

Photo supplied

Once again, his half-hour visit often turns into way longer as they get nattering about cars and life in general.

Antony used to be in the shop but is now an official greeter for those visiting Hospice.

His association with the organisation

goes back to 2013 when he nursed his wife through cancer. "Hospice were of enormous help to us," he says. "I knew very little about the organisation beforehand but they provided us with doctors, nurses, all sorts of equipment and more... I was absolutely stunned with the support they were able to give to someone in our position."

He's always been fairly active, and is involved with a number of other organisations, including the Sunshine Bus, Aged Concern, the Cancer Society and of course Hospice. "I feel a need to help others but it also keeps me occupied and gives me the opportunity to meet a lot of interesting people."

And it helps – he says – he gets to do it in the beautiful new Hospice building.

## In case you wondered...

### What is hospice palliative care?

To palliate means to ease the symptoms of an illness where the illness itself cannot be cured. Hospice or palliative care is specialised care for patients who are terminally ill, enabling them to achieve the best possible quality of life during the final stages of their illness. The service includes family support and grief and bereavement care.

### Where is hospice palliative care provided?

In the Tairāwhiti region, hospice palliative care is provided at home, in rest homes, and in hospital. Gisborne Hospital has a special palliative care unit.

### How can I get referred for care?

Patients should be referred by either their GP or specialist doctor.

### When can I be referred?

Patients can be referred when they have reached a palliative stage in their illness, where the focus of treatment is on symptom control, comfort and quality of life rather than cure.

### How does it benefit the patient?

- » Your pain is managed and symptoms controlled
- » You receive emotional and spiritual support
- » Your quality of life in the final stages is enhanced
- » You get personalised care

### How does it benefit family and friends?

- » You feel a part of the team caring for the patient
- » Your needs as a carer and individual are supported
- » You have access to bereavement and counselling services

### Do you have to pay for palliative care?

All services are free to patients, family and whānau.

### How is Hospice Tairāwhiti funded?

The Tairāwhiti service is approximately 55% funded by Te Whatu Ora and supplemented by the generosity of the community through individuals, groups, bequests, trusts and foundations. This year we need to raise over \$750,000 to provide our current level of service.

**Hospice Tairāwhiti is a full member of Hospice New Zealand**



75 Customhouse Street  
P: 06 868 9510  
Hours: Mon-Fri 8am-6pm  
Sat & Sun 9am-2pm



578 Gladstone Rd  
P: 06 867 4672



Opp. Taruheru Cemetery  
Nelson Road  
P: 06 867 1800  
E: info@stonehaven.nz



Peel Street  
P: 06 868 8015



THREERIVERS  
MEDICAL  
75 Customhouse Street  
P: 06 867 7411



145 Derby Street  
P: 06 869 0457  
www.turangahealth.co.nz



14 Rutene Road, Gisborne  
P: 06 868 9595  
admin@nzgsmedical.co.nz

## Did you know?

Last year at the Hospice Shop, we sold.....



## 'Pockets of Niceness' in shop donations

It's been nearly a decade since the very popular Hospice Shop tentatively opened its doors for the first time and what a journey it has been.

The store has become a popular hunting ground for so many looking for that special bargain.

Shop manager Brenda Kinder says the donations always come with "pockets of niceness". "We are a charity shop so we are always looking for good quality products. All the money raised stays locally and contributes to the \$750,000 we need to raise for Hospice services." And people know they can find those products for a good price. "Everyone is always looking for good quality at a reasonable price. We are seeing that more and more now as the cost of living continues to rise."

She does ask people to be mindful of what they are giving to make sure it is clean, functional and good quality.

Brenda is always keen to welcome new volunteers to the team too, so if you're interested, swing by and have a chat. "There are so many different jobs to be done," she says. "Some love to be out on the shop floor while others prefer to be out back sorting donations, picking up goods, or doing other odd jobs to help. We appreciate everyone's contribution so much."

## Finding out more about Hospice

Is your organisation interested in finding out about Hospice Tairāwhiti?

- » What's Hospice and what's it about?
- » What services does Hospice provide?
- » Why are Hospice services free to people in our our community?
- » How does Hospice partner with others in our community?

If you and your staff are interested in hearing more about Hospice, contact Kj on 027 254 3671 or email [kj@hospicetairawhiti.org.nz](mailto:kj@hospicetairawhiti.org.nz)



Kj is the marketing coordinator for Hospice Tairāwhiti and has been involved in Tairāwhiti organisations in both operational and strategic leadership roles. She says, "I love working alongside our community to help make a difference to individuals and their whānau where wellbeing is the focus."



In association with **ElectriNET**

**Pop-up Cafe**  
75A PEEL STREET  
Across the street from the Hospice Shop

16-19 May 10am - 2pm

The Pop-up Cafe is supported by:



Hospice is not just a building; it is a philosophy of care

Show your support for Hospice Awareness Week

15-21 May 2023



Hospice Tairāwhiti C/- Private Bag 7001 GISBORNE

P: (06) 869 0552 | F: (06) 869 0566 | E: [hospice@hospicetairawhiti.org.nz](mailto:hospice@hospicetairawhiti.org.nz)