

# Waipuna Connections

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Bringing you closer to the lives you help change

*"THE LAST ITEM ON MUM'S BUCKET LIST WAS TO GET SOME "GLAM" SHOTS SO THAT HER GRANDCHILDREN WOULD REMEMBER HER LOOKING GLAMOUROUS."*

- Nicki Everitt on her mother's journey with Waipuna Hospice

**FOREVER GRATEFUL, FOREVER IN MY HEART**

Nicki Everitt shares her story on her mum's battle with cancer and her journey with Waipuna Hospice.

Read more on page two.



**Waipuna**HOSPICE  
Life is Special



## Rambling Rich

Hi Waipuna Hospice supporter,

I am composing this newsletter piece just as we have moved to phase three of the omicron outbreak and shortly after Russia has invaded Ukraine. What a changeable world we are living in these days.

Waipuna Hospice continues to provide care for our loved ones in the Western Bay of Plenty despite these events. It would be fair to say that things are much harder now, we have more precautions (eg PPE) in place, and test staff regularly with RAT tests as per the MOH guidance, as we serve a patient group that is classified as a high priority vulnerable population. We are mostly working from home (well our healthcare service is) and this adds another strain on staff – ensuring that we maintain communication and assist as much as possible as staff are so important to our service.

Our shops and fundraising teams are finding things extremely hard – and we continue to need the essential dollars that these important parts of the organisation raise for us. Without a doubt, we are down on

the income we need to provide our specialist palliative care services, and this will make meeting our budgeted income this year almost impossible – thank goodness we have some reserves – but these are finite, not infinite. Thank you to all of you who continue to support us throughout this tough time – you are our rock!

Hospice services are an essential healthcare service but we are still not recognised in terms of funding as such. We hope that there may be some light at the end of this fiscal tunnel with the completion of the Healthcare reforms.

My question to you all is: should hospice and palliative care services be equitably available to all New Zealanders?

If you answer yes to this....please support us and help advocate this message in any way you can.

## SUPERHERO WALK AND RUN!

### Our SUPERheroes Raised Over \$17,000!!

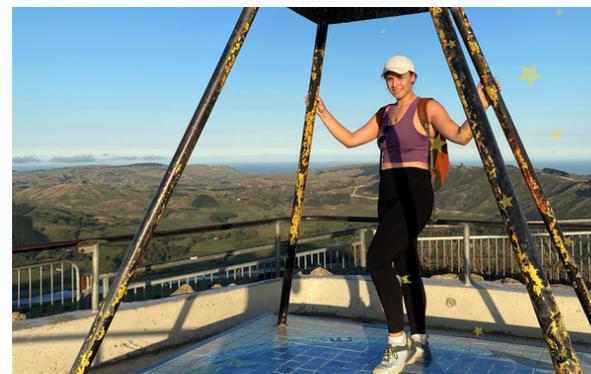
We are blown away by the support we have received during the 2022 Superhero Walk/Run!!

Our awesome SUPERheroes collectively travelled 3,388km, and with the help of their incredible donors helped us raise \$17,419 in just 30 days!!!! What an inspiring achievement.

We'd love to say a huge thank you to everyone who participated, donated, or helped spread the word. You are the real heroes, and we couldn't do what we do in the community without your support.

\$17,419 will go a long way in supporting the work of Waipuna Hospice. In fact, that money could go towards petrol costs, nursing supplies, family support, medical loan equipment, on call nursing - the list goes on. So, from everyone here at Waipuna Hospice, THANK YOU.

If you didn't get a chance to support our heroes this year, don't worry, there is still time. Our fundraising pages will stay open for a little bit longer, so visit <https://2022-superhero-walk-run.raisely.com/donate> and help us be there for the community, now and in the future.



## Forever grateful, forever in my heart.

A story by Nicki Everitt.

Waipuna Hospice was there for my family when we needed them the most. They took care of my mum, Stella, when she was battling pancreatic cancer, and later my family when we were dealing with the grief of losing someone so special.

Mum's journey began with a few tummy issues, which she did not think too much of. Eventually, they got worse and her pain came to a head on my wedding day in 2018. **After several months of tests, mum was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and we received the heartbreaking news that she only had 3-6 months left to live.** Mum being mum took it all in stride; however, we were devastated. It took us longer to process and accept her condition as reality.

The first three months of mum's journey were traumatic in terms of pain. She was in and out of the hospital and ended up getting a stoma and colostomy bag, which helped ease some of her suffering.

After that, her journey with Waipuna Hospice began. The team at Waipuna Hospice were empathetic but direct, telling us what we needed to know and listening when we needed to be heard. **Everything was about making mum more comfortable and listening to her wants and needs.** Waipuna Hospice also included our family, making sure we were aware of what was happening to mum, what to look for and what to expect in the journey.

The most significant part of the help Waipuna gave us was in the last few weeks of mum's life. **Mum wanted to be at home surrounded by her family and loving partner Geoff. Waipuna Hospice made that possible.** They visited daily, making sure mum was as comfortable as possible. The love and care they gave mum, and us, were second to none.

Mum truly believed she had lived a very fulfilling life. She particularly loved being a grandmother to her seven grandchildren and her one big sadness was that she would not be around to see her great-grandchildren.

Before mum died we made sure her final two bucket list items were ticked off. We organised for the whole family (from New Zealand and Australia) to go to Cooks Beach for a long weekend as she had never been to the Coromandel. It was a very special time. My uncle even flew mum in on a helicopter. The last item on mum's bucket list was that she wanted some "glam" shots so that her grandchildren would remember her looking glamorous. Mum and I did this together. It was a lovely day and we made memories I will cherish forever.

Mum died in October 2018 – she was only 69. **Reflecting on her final journey, I am forever grateful for Waipuna Hospice's help.**

Everything about mum's care was special. We were never turned away, always encouraged to reach out, and always felt like we were listened to. **The team was genuine, caring, loving, and empathetic, not just when they helped mum, but for the whole family. It felt like they became part of our family.**

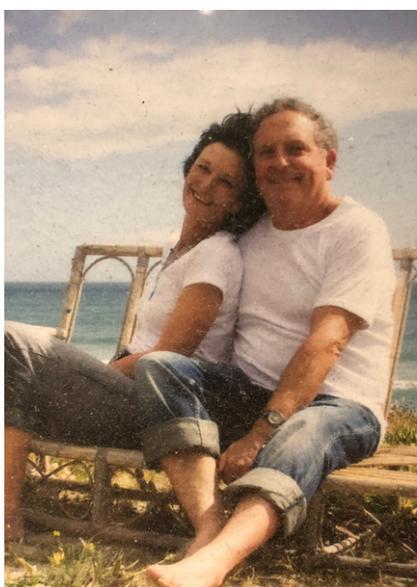
I used to donate to Waipuna Hospice, but after Mum's journey, I knew more about the cause and wanted to do more to help.

**I don't think people in the community know how much Waipuna Hospice needs donations to operate. They aren't fully government-funded, so without community support, they wouldn't have been there to care for my mum.**

We would like to thank Nicki for sharing her story with us. If you would like to help us care for families like Nicki's please donate via [www.waipunahospice.org.nz/donate/](http://www.waipunahospice.org.nz/donate/).



Nicki and her mum Stella at their 'glam' photoshoot.



Stella and her partner Geoff in Pukehina, Stella's happy place.



Stella starred in the film "Go Kart Queen" in England.



# A RARE ROSE

## for a good cause



### A Rare Rose Raises \$40,000 for Waipuna Hospice

Just over \$40,000 has been raised for Waipuna Hospice in the Rose Cottage Dollhouse auction, sponsored and match-funded by EVES.

Waipuna Hospice collaborated with EVES Realty to bring to auction the Rose Cottage Dollhouse – the 1950s inspired, handcrafted dollhouse donated to Waipuna Hospice by Jacquie McNabb.

Jacquie spent three years creating the Dollhouse, which was originally donated in an effort to downsize and declutter and says she couldn't think of anyone more deserving than Waipuna Hospice.



*"The way I see it, most of us will end up in Waipuna Hospice's care one way or another, so I wanted to donate Rose Cottage to them and hopefully help them fundraise".*

Jacqui is blown away by the support shown to the auction and is thrilled by the outcome.

*"I'm absolutely delighted that Waipuna Hospice was able to raise \$40,000 off the auction, and feel blessed that I was able to contribute in a small way to the care they provide to so many people in our community."*

The Rose Cottage Dollhouse received a top bid of \$5,000, and \$15,134.20 in donations, which thanks to EVES Realty's match funding pledge, results in just over \$40,000. This money will go directly towards the work of Waipuna Hospice, helping care for and support the Tauranga and the Western Bay of Plenty community.

As our CEO, Richard Thurlow explains, we are beyond thankful for all the support this auction received.

*"I would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who helped make it possible, including the donors, bidders, Farmer Autovillage, Jacquie McNabb, and of course EVES Realty for coming on board as our principal event sponsor, and generously matching every dollar up to \$20,000."*

## Help Waipuna Hospice provide more care with TaxGift.

**With TaxGift, every donation you make means we help even more people without you having to pay a cent more!**

TaxGift's simple platform lets you gift us the donation tax credits on the donations you make to us, growing your gift by up to 43%. It takes less than a minute to sign up, and there's nothing more for you to do – we'll work with the experts at TaxGift to claim these credits from the Inland Revenue and boost our fundraising. It's the easiest gift you'll give us!

Sign up today at [www.waipunahospice.org.nz/tax-gift/](http://www.waipunahospice.org.nz/tax-gift/) and let's grow your donations!



# Meet Andrea: Our Fraser St Manager

Andrea has been the Waipuna Hospice Fraser Street Store Manager for four years. In what is often a busy and diverse role, Andrea has many reasons to love her role.

*"It's hard to narrow down why I enjoy my work as there are so many rewarding aspects. The diversity amongst the community that we serve, the customers, our incredible volunteers, the amazing donations that we receive, the list goes on."*

*"It's also a fun place to work, especially as I get to work with the most amazing team of people, who have become whānau whānau. I love hearing their stories and their achievements in life; they are all so unique and inspiring."*

All charity shops have their own uniqueness, but Andrea believes Waipuna Hospice offers something special to the community.

*"What makes Waipuna Hospice shops unique is not only the incredible impact our donors, shoppers, and volunteers have on the community, but it's also our ability to rotate stock between shops. Because we have six shops in the Bay of Plenty we have quite a market share which puts us on the map for locals and out of town visitors alike."*

Our charity shops exist to turn second-hand goods into first-class palliative care in our community. Something that isn't possible without our invaluable volunteers explains Andrea.

*"The impact our volunteers have on our shops is infinite and so hard to put into words. Each volunteer brings with them a set of skills that are varied and diverse. This enables the organisation to have fewer overheads and to put more money into the caring of patients, which is our whole reason for being."*

In return for their vital help, our volunteers get to have fun, enjoy a sense of belonging, regain a sense of purpose that may be lost, and they get to do something very worthwhile for the community.

*"If there was one thing that I wish our community knew about our shops it's that we are constantly short of good quality donations and volunteering will give you so much more than you could ever expect," says Andrea. "Volunteering truly is an amazing opportunity, and we have roles to suit almost everyone."*



*In Andrea's free time she enjoys ziplining.*



*Andrea (green dress) and our Fraser St volunteers at the Superhero Walk 2021.*



## CAN YOU HELP?

# JOIN OUR TEAM AND BECOME A VOLUNTEER

We're looking for volunteers to help in our charity shops and depot. This directly supports Waipuna Hospice and helps us deliver specialist palliative care to our community.

**Can you spare just  
3.5 hours a week to help?  
No experience is needed.**

Volunteering is an enjoyable way to meet new friends, learn new skills and support a local charitable organisation.

**To sign up or learn more please visit  
[www.waipunahospice.org.nz/volunteer](http://www.waipunahospice.org.nz/volunteer) or  
contact us on 07 552 4380 ext 219.**

Please note that if you wish to volunteer you will need to be vaccinated against COVID-19 as the volunteer positions are customer-facing roles and the wellbeing of our community is our priority.

WAIPUNA HOSPICE

# REMEMBRANCE TREE APPEAL

2021



## Remembrance Tree Campaign Raises Almost \$60,000 for Waipuna Hospice.

Our Remembrance Tree appeal is a time when the community is encouraged to leave a message on a Christmas tree for their loved ones, remembering those whom they can't be with. In return, a donation is made which goes directly back to helping those in our community facing a life-limiting illness through the work of Waipuna Hospice. In November and December 2021, our appeal was run throughout the community, and we were blown away by the results.

For Tauranga and the Western Bay of Plenty, the campaign raised a total of \$59,861.61 which will enable Waipuna Hospice to continue to provide the best possible specialist hospice palliative care, enhancing the quality of life for those facing end of life and bereavement.

*"We were overwhelmed by the support shown for Waipuna Hospice through the 2021 Remembrance Tree Appeal, particularly in what was an extremely hard year for many",* explains Waipuna Hospice CEO, Richard Thurlow.

*"I want to thank Farmers, those who supported us by hosting a Remembrance Tree site, and of course all those in our community who remembered a loved one through this appeal. Every dollar raised from this appeal helps us help our community. Lastly, but certainly not least, I would like to make a special mention to the volunteers who made this appeal possible. The time and effort that our dedicated volunteers give to Waipuna Hospice continues to blow me away. During this appeal, they contributed an incredible 864 volunteer hours."*

*"This campaign, and the amazing result, would not be possible without our generous community."*

The national appeal is supported by Farmers and their customers in the lead up to Christmas. More than \$908,000 was donated throughout the country, which was helped significantly the sale of almost 15,000 collectable baubles. This was the eighth year that Farmers has raised funds for hospice and we want to thank them for their continued support.

## Hospice Awareness Week - Save the Date

It's time to mark your calendar. Hospice Awareness Week (HAWK) 2022 is running from Monday 16 May until Sunday 22.

HAWK marks a week of activities to help advocate Waipuna Hospice and the work we do in the community. This year we will be running our annual roadshow, community collections, and our much-anticipated Symposium on the 16th of May.

This year's symposium is going virtual, and we are bringing you an exciting lineup of both local and international speakers. Our symposium sells out every year, so register your interest now so you don't miss out!

Email [events@waipunahospice.org.nz](mailto:events@waipunahospice.org.nz) with your first and last name, organisation (if applicable), contact details, and we will register your interest so you are the first to know when tickets go on sale.

## INSPIRE OTHERS WITH YOUR STORY.

One of the most amazing ways you can help raise awareness and provide support to others in your community, is by sharing your story. Sharing your story is a powerful way to remind others that they're not alone. Hearing someone else's story can bring comfort to those who are facing a similar illness or dealing with the grief of losing a loved one.

Stories can get people talking, change attitudes, challenge stigma, and help people in your community by inspiring future support. If we've looked after someone close to you during their final days, or you have a unique story about what hospice care is and how it helps, we'd love to hear from you.

Please visit  
[www.waipunahospice.org.nz/hare-your-story/](http://www.waipunahospice.org.nz/hare-your-story/)  
or call us on 552 4380 ext. 211.



## WE NEED YOUR HELP TO STOCK OUR SHELVES!

Our shops are running extremely low on donated goods, and we need your help to stock our shelves. From furniture and clothes to whiteware, books, and bric-a-bac, we will turn your second-hand goods into first-class hospice care.

If you are ready to clear out some clutter, make space in your kitchen cupboards, or it's time to get rid of those clothes you haven't worn in months then please think about donating them to Waipuna Hospice.

We offer a FREE collection service, simply call 07 281 1755 to book, or visit any of our six shops to donate.

[www.waipunahospice.org.nz/donategoods/](http://www.waipunahospice.org.nz/donategoods/)



## FUNDRAISE YOUR WAY FOR WAIPUNA HOSPICE

Every year individuals, local businesses, friends and community groups host loads of creative fundraising activities from skydives and stand-up comedy nights, to clothes swaps, and sporting events to raise funds for Waipuna Hospice.

This type of fundraising means the world to us because it's often inspired by a personal experience with our services.

By 'fundraising your way' you're ensuring we can continue to help locals with life-limiting illnesses live every moment in whatever way is important to them.

To encourage and support these passionate fundraisers, we've created an online toolkit with ideas, tips and guidelines to help plan and complete a successful and fun event.

If you would like to chat to us about your fundraising idea email us on [supporter@waipunahospice.org.nz](mailto:supporter@waipunahospice.org.nz).

## Upcoming Events

May

Monday 16th - 22nd May  
Hospice Awareness Week

Look out for our Roadshow, street collections, and Symposium!

June

19 - 25 June

National Volunteer Week

Let's celebrate our wonderful family of volunteers!

Tuesday 21st June  
Shorts for Hospice

Wear your shorts on the shortest day of the year to support Hospice.



Become a  
Waipuna  
Hospice  
member  
today.

Better Connection, more impact,  
and stay informed.

For more information call 07 552 4380 ext. 318.

## Thank you to our supporters



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