



**REST HOME LIMITED**

17 - 19 McCallum St  
Springlands  
Blenheim 7201

(03) 578 7966  
[www.aberleigh.co.nz](http://www.aberleigh.co.nz)

## **Newsletter**

**6 March 2009**

### **Greetings to you all**

I often think about the importance of family. Many of you are part of our Aberleigh community. A visit from family often makes a resident's day. You frequently lighten the day of the staff as well. It is very nice seeing family – we will get to know some of you well.

We are thoroughly enjoying spending time with your loved ones and the staff team at Aberleigh.

The team at Aberleigh have been very welcoming. I am so thankful that we have skillful, effective people to work with.

Andrew Sheard is the operations manager. The operations manager deals with all operational matters including laundry, cleaning, the working of the kitchen, human resources, risk management, and benchmarking. He checks to see that we are doing what we say we do in our policies/procedures and plans.

The registered nurses are Annabelle Randall and Judi Curtis. They work with the care staff, planning care for each resident and making sure the care is implemented. They ensure that every resident gets the best care possible.

Donna Jemmett is acting as a clinical manager, providing clinical supervision to Judi and Annabelle. She talks with them every day and they report to her daily. You will hear from Annabelle and Judi. They will ring you when they have a concern about your loved one, when he/she experiences an incident, when the doctor sees your loved one, etc. They aim to build trusting relationships with family members.

Sue Matheson is the quality and systems manager. She has been here a lot over the last few weeks (spending time with staff and implementing policies and procedures) and will be here for a day or two every few weeks over the next period of time.

Carolyn Straker is the person you will see in the front office. She will often answer the phone when you call.

We have put many additional hours each day into caregiving. Consequently we now have some new staff members. We have also increased the diversional therapy for residents. Trudy Langford is a new diversional therapist. The new members of our team have been carefully chosen and orientated and we believe they will do a wonderful job of caring for people at Aberleigh.

Caring for people is very meaningful and rewarding work. It can also be very demanding work. We have contracted Workplace Support to provide us with a person to support our staff. This person is getting to know all staff.

Workplace Support provides a 24 hour, seven day a week service for anyone who is experiencing any problem at all.

Kirsty Hart our education co-ordinator has been to Aberleigh recently. She has met with every staff member assisting them in planning and implementing their education. All staff are required to obtain unit standards in the care of elderly people. We have an extensive education programme and in the last seven weeks there has been education sessions on the following: fire drills, managing behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia, restraint minimization and safe practice, safe food handling, chemical awareness, infection control, prevention of abuse and neglect.

We are very busy currently with redecorating. Outside areas are being improved and made more accessible. The painting has started. New carpet, curtains and furniture has been ordered. The furniture is now arriving.

We have now been here at Aberleigh for 7 weeks. We need some feedback about how things are going. We would be very grateful if you would complete the attached survey form and send it back in the enclosed stamped addressed envelope.

Take care

Alison Hume

*We do things differently and it works!*