

**OZANAM HOUSE TRUST
ANNUAL REPORT
2004**

In my first Report as Chairman of the Trust Board I wish to comment on some of the Years' highlights. The Trust has completed 32 years of service to the Cancer Community. Our principal geographical area of interest remain Gisborne and East Coast to the Wairarapa and from Otaki to north of New Plymouth. There are occasions when we welcome patients from other areas.

Our main responsibility, as the Trustees see it, is to provide 'Home away from Home' accommodation for those requiring to come to Palmerston North for treatment for Cancer. While the majority of the guests require Radio Therapy treatment not all are in Palmerston North for that reason. Some patients require longer controlled periods for chemotherapy.

The source of and the number of guests is entirely dependent on the Regional Cancer Treatment Centre's ability to conduct clinics and subsequently have the machine capacity to treat. Our observation is that, in difficult circumstances, the Treatment Centre wages a constant battle for recognition of the need for and the associated supply of the high cost equipment. The equation is further complicated by the difficulty in obtaining the right staff in the right ratio in the face of worldwide competition.

I am sure I speak on behalf of my fellow Board members when I say we congratulate the Mid Central Health Staff responsible for handling this difficult task well and with some success. While we know it is difficult to get all we think we need there are continuing efforts being made to improve and widen the scope for Cancer Treatment for the Region at the Palmerston North Centre. We are pleased to play a part in this. To this end we have, this year in particular, built on previous good relations to strengthen our ties with the Treatment Centre.

While it is not always wise to mention names and at the risk of omitting other worthy people in particular, I thank Ms Penny O'Leary and Mr Bob Phillips. At this time it is appropriate to thank the Cancer Society through it's Central Districts Division for its efforts in advocacy. The Cancer Society has by making available funds, successfully assisted the Centre in achieving some of the goals I discussed previously.

A further highlight, which was foreshadowed in the Board's report of last year affected the Hawkes Bay Shuttle Service. Passengers from the West Coast have, for some years, enjoyed the service provided by the Taranaki Cancer Society with Ministry of Health assistance. This Government assistance has not been available to the Trust since we inaugurated a Hawkes Bay Shuttle Service some 4-5 years ago. Discussions with the Cancer Society Division resulted in agreement being reached. Using the Trust's vehicle the Hawkes Bay Centre of the Society have assumed responsibility for the service. This was in no small way possible due to the generous support of our Donors. Gifts, specifically for this purpose, are acknowledged as being received from the following;

Hastings Returned Services Association (Inc.)
Spring Hill Charitable Trust
Tamatea Country Woman's Institute
Tasman Smith Charitable Trust
Hastings Building Society.

These donors were acknowledged particularly when the Hawkes Bay Service commenced in July of this year.

VOLUNTARY FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The Trust does not always cover its costs of operating with the current level of Government support through the Ministry of Health. The shortfall and the funds we need to maintain the higher standards in the accommodation provided are made up from the many, many donations we receive.

We acknowledge again the continued generosity of the Palmerston North City Council. Due to the changes made in setting rates it is not possible, apparently, for the whole charge to be remitted. We are grateful for the substantial donation made to us by the City Fathers, once again.

Bequests this year total \$1000.00 (L/Y \$50,129.00) the lowest ever but never the less gratefully acknowledged. I can comment on the uncertain nature of income from this source by alluding to some very generous bequests we have received for this current year. The 'Update' newsletter issued intermittently netted \$40,000.00 in this year. Our general donations at \$129,399.00 (L/Y \$196,493.00) include, to name a few, the following:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Opunake Country Music Club | Mr GS Negus |
| Ascot Bloodstock Limited | Mr & Mrs A Blair |
| Lions Club of Hastings | Mr & Mrs DG Crosse |
| Jacobs Florentine & Partners | Mr & Mrs D & B Coxhead |
| R Ordish | Mr & Mrs AD Reeves |
| GA Hughes | Mr & Mrs WL & A Wither |
| C Fallows | Mr & Mrs Third - Gisborne |
| Lions Club of Rongotea | Mr J Coleman |
| BK Williams | Estate Elizabeth J Jeffery |
| St Vincent de Paul – New Plymouth | Mr & Mrs N Light |
| Mr & Mrs R Robinson | Miss M Perry |
| Mrs F Black | Mr WG Bourke |
| Late John Nisson | Probus Club – Gisborne |
| Mrs Wraith – Baywide Country Concert | Graham Moore |
| St Vincent de Paul – Hawera | Pam Torbett Charitable Trust |
| Estate Emily Harman | Clark Charitable Trust |
| Mr & Mrs JN Scott | |

Readers of previous reports may recognise that some of the above have been acknowledged previously. The Trustees are thankful for the continuing support of so many.

STATISTICS

Our patients come from a wide area, as set out previously, but are cateragised into three principal areas. These areas are historically based on previous funding patterns. Tairawhiti have in recent years established their funding separately and are shown this year as a stand alone statistic.

MID CENTRAL

| | 2004 | 2003 | 2002 | 2001 | 2000 |
|------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Patients Only | 142 | 151 | 223 | 242 | 188 |
| Patients with Carers | 307 | 244 | 287 | 264 | 265 |
| Carers Only | 55 | 7 | 26 | 60 | 84 |
| | 504 | 402 | 536 | 566 | 537 |
| <i>Room Nights/Occupancy</i> | 9762 | 9739 | - | - | - |

TARANAKI (up to 2003 includes Tairawhiti)

| | 2004 | 2003 | 2002 | 2001 | 2000 |
|------------------------------|------|-------|------|------|------|
| Patients Only | 55 | 73 | 83 | 104 | 167 |
| Patients with Carers | 203 | 260 | 205 | 185 | 101 |
| Carers Only | 37 | 5 | 13 | 36 | 32 |
| | 295 | 338 | 301 | 325 | 300 |
| <i>Room Nights/Occupancy</i> | 7339 | 10043 | - | - | - |

TAIRAWHITI

| | 2004 | 2003 | 2002 | 2001 | 2000 |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|------|------|------|
| Patients Only | 17 | | | | |
| Patients with Carers | 64 | | | | |
| Carers Only | 14 | | | | |
| | 95 | | | | |
| <i>Room Nights/Occupancy</i> | 2361 | | | | |
| Overall | 894 | 740 | 837 | 895 | 837 |
| | 19412 | 19782 | | | |

ANNUAL

| | 2004 | 2003 | 2002 | 2001 | 2000 |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|------|------|------|
| Annual Guests | 894 | 740 | 837 | 895 | 837 |
| <i>Room Nights/Occupancy</i> | 19412 | 19782 | | | |

FINANCES

As was foreshadowed in last years report the results of ongoing discussion with the Ministry of Health's funding agency began to show. Our revenue meeting our costs for the first time in a number of years. A \$33,576.00 reduction in unfunded accommodation contributed to this.

Overhead costs were down on last years \$788,180.00 to \$731,317.00. Accommodation provided to unfunded carers has been recorded again this year and written off against our voluntary income. This amounted to \$42,322.00 for the year.

The Trusts financial position remains sound having been improved significantly during the year. The Trust does not visage any major capital expenditure in the immediate future but continues its policy of retaining a high standard of accommodation by consistent preventative Maintenance.

GENERAL

The well established excellent relationships between the Trust and the staff at the Regional Treatment Centre continue to be maintained. This has been strengthened recently with more regular liaison.

To my fellow Trustees, for whose unlimited support, in this my first term as Chairman, I am grateful. They continue, as always, to make a valuable contribution to the smooth operation of the Trust Board. Les Walden and Cliff Craven between them bring to the Board table many years of devotion to the philosophy of the Trust. Natalie Hope, a recent appointment has, apart from a brief leave of absence, also been able to well represent the Trustee with her vast background of experience in the Health area.

I pay tribute to Mrs Eileen Day and her staff for the capable day to day administration of the realativley large facility the Trust operates.

Our Secretary and his staff ably continue to manage our finances and overall administration. While there are occasions when the Trusts needs and those of our funders are at variance the Secretary ensures that the Trust's position is well known to all involved.

Finally, I wish to acknowledge that I have found working with my fellow Trustees in furthering the aims of the Trust have been rewarding and interesting. The often expressed thanks we receive from those whom we set out to make comfortable during a difficult time is very satisfying.

**Dr Bernard P Forde MBE JP
CHAIRMAN**