

ANNUAL REPORT 1997

On the 1st February 1971 the Trust was formed and the end of the year 31st March 1997 marked the 25th year of the Trust's operations. I am pleased to be able to report on the Trust's activities in this important year. The Trust provides accommodation which was the original brain child of the St Vincent de Paul Society in Palmerston North. That Society together with the Cancer Society in 1971 saw the need for the provision of accommodation for patients attending treatment at the Outpatients Department of the Palmerston North Hospital Oncology Department.

In the beginning a three bedroomed house was purchased and with alterations provided accommodation for four patients with carers. It has always been the philosophy of the Trust that no patient would be refused accommodation and where ever possible a carer would be provided for. This philosophy has been followed with remarkable success ever since. The Trust currently provides beds for 40 patients, all rooms being double rooms, ensuited. The Trust provides this accommodation over six buildings. Progress is currently underway with the provision of a further six bedrooms in a separate block. An office administration centre and recreational room are also being provided, and the former office will be converted into an additional two bedrooms.

Support

Almost since it's inception the Lions Clubs of Districts 202B and 202D, and part of 202H have supported the Ozanam House concept and on three occasions have acted as fundraisers. During 1996 the fast growing need for accommodation was recognised by the Lions Clubs and as Trustees we are proud to be associated with District Governors Roger Malthus and Ray Seymour when the Lions in those combined Districts raised almost \$1,000,000.00 for the Trust. In recognition of contributions made by Lions and LCIF, in particular, one of the properties recently purchased has been called the Lloyd Morgan Wing. Mr Lloyd Morgan is the only New Zealander to have held the post of World President of Lions Clubs International.

In the lounge of the Lloyd Morgan Wing there is a book of remembrance which acknowledges the names of most of the 20,000 plus members of the public who made a donation to the Lions Appeal. In addition, and there are others whom I may overlook to mention, the following are especially thanked.

LCIF

Lloyd Morgan's Lions Clubs Charitable Trust
Eastern & Central Trust Bank Community Trust
New Zealand Lotteries Commission
Turanga Trust

Thanks to the generosity of the above and for many of our former patients and their families together with the general support of the public, the Trust provides a very high quality facility which is much appreciated and highly regarded. For the future, the Trustees, during last year, assisted the Mid Central Health CHE in it's obligations to North Health by providing accommodation for patients being sent to Palmerston North for treatment. The purpose of this arrangement is to reduce the waiting list at the Auckland Hospital for patients requiring Radiotherapy treatment. As Trustees we express some concern for what we observe as current health policies detrimental to the benefit of the Cancer patient and we have made appropriate representations.

The Trustees are concerned at the rising incident of Cancer in the community and the resultant fact that more facilities are needed to be progressively provided over the years.

Statistics

The financial statements at page 14 set out some statistical data and show that in the period from 1993 to 1997 patient numbers have risen dramatically and with carers the annual number of persons accommodated have increased from 772 to 1,058. During a recent period patients were noted as being sourced from the following districts:-

	1994	1995	1996	
Taranaki	38	95	122	255
Gisborne	42	72	60	174
Wairoa	9	9	10	29
Hawkes Bay	143	210	220	573
Manawatu	15	41	29	85
Wanganui	54	72	60	186
Wairarapa	21	31	22	74
Auckland	0	0	3	3
Others	4	2	2	8
Total	<u>326</u>	<u>532</u>	<u>528</u>	<u>1,387</u>

Finances

The Trustees are pleased to report that the Trust's assets are in good shape and that the Trust has a value at the moment of \$2.5 million. While it can be seen that \$1,156,000.00 is currently invested it is largely as a result of the very successful fundraising campaign recently held. Readers should be aware that the Trust is currently engaged in the following capital development programme which will absorb all our invested funds:-

a) Payments due to complete work undertaken during 1997	\$155,000.00
b) Contracts let for additional property being erected	\$700,350.00
c) Furnishings and land improvements to new property	\$100,000.00
d) Alterations to existing family building unit to increased bedroom capacity by 2 estimated cost	\$150,000.00

From this you will see that our funds, at any one time, are reasonably fragile and indicate the need for continued community support. In addition the Trustees have a policy of endeavouring to have a capital fund to support future development and the possibility of a reduction in our income due to a downturn in donations, or for whatever other reason.

Finally, we regard it as financially responsible to have a small nest egg investment in order that any urgent project which came to our notice could be undertaken without the necessity to initiate a major fundraising exercise. As managers for the Trustees we have no doubt that this prudent judgement on our part receives their full support.

Acknowledgments

At this point I wish to acknowledge with thanks the contributions made to the operation of the Trust by my fellow Trustees, Mr Ian C Mark representing the Cancer Society, Mr Cliff Craven, Mr Les Walden of the St Vincent de Paul Society. During the high level of activity in recent years the Trustees have been extensively involved and their contribution has been significant. I have been pleased to have been associated with the Trust for the last two years as Chairman, and I am pleased to be able to hand over the Trust to the Chairmanship of Mr Les Walden. This will be the third occasion during the 25 year history of the Trust that Mr Walden, a foundation Trustee, has accepted the position of Chairperson.

While we act in capacity as managers on behalf of the Trustees forming the Ozanam House Trust should pay tribute to the support which we receive from both the St Vincent de Paul Society/Manawatu District Council and the Manawatu of the Cancer Society of New Zealand.

During the years of the Trust we have been truly blessed with the Administrators and Assistant Administrators who have been at Ozanam House. At the present time Mrs Eileen Day and Mrs June Spicer continue with their friendly and generous contribution to the welfare of patients with Cancer receiving treatment.

Behind the scenes, and probably no less visible, our Secretary Mr Anthony Finnigan and his staff have provided sterling administrative and accounting support.

At the conclusion of this my second term as Chairman of the Trust I am pleased to be able to say that I am handing over the Chairmanship to Mr Les P Walden with the Trust in good heart.



P V Bydder
CHAIRMAN